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Benjamin Smith Lyman
Collection

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[Copy]

Northampton, 2 Jan. 1864.

J. H. Converse Esq.
Boston.

Dear Sir,

On my arrival here yesterday evening, I found your favor of the twenty-sixth ninth enclosing a check on the Shawmut Bank for three hundred and fifty-two dollars and seventy-seven cents ($353 77/100) the balance of our account.

Yet thanks for the same and for your kind wishes, I remain

Very truly yours,
Benj. Smith Lyman.

[Superscription:]

J. H. Converse Esq.
No. 19 State Street,
Boston,
Massachusetts

1

[Copy]

Northampton, Mass., 2 Jan. 1864.

John Forgett Esq.
San Francisco.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Young, who is making my transit and getting the other compass ready, has informed me that it will be quite possible to get those instruments ready, as soon as we had expected, [illegible] in time for tomorrow's steamer. He had been disappointed about some of the materials to be used, and moreover, most of his men absolutely refused to work on New Year's day, and some also on the day following.

As I could be of little use without the instruments, and as refitting myself out with all the articles necessary for so long an absence has occupied far more time than I had expected and [illegible] me from giving but very little time to my unfinished Nova Scotia work; I shall not sail myself until the steamer [illegible]

I trust this will not delay you beyond the time necessary for getting your outfit; but in any case the delay seems unavoidable.

I remain, dear Sir,

Very respectfully yours.

Benj. Smith Lyman.

[Superscription]
John Forgett Esq.
San Francisco
Calif.

2

[illegible] Philadelphia
7 June 1864.

My dear Mrs. [illegible]

If you could
[illegible] for me before Monday
[illegible] greatly oblige me.
[illegible] until next
[illegible] have come back to
[illegible]
[illegible] If be [illegible] if you could
[illegible]
[illegible]
Benj. Smith Lyman.

Mrs. James Buchanan.
1328 Rodman Street.
above Juniper below Lond.
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the fifth [illegible]

[illegible] of the summer [illegible]

[illegible] I have not tried on the coat [illegible]

four or five years, but I remember that [illegible]

[illegible] very [illegible] size and I cannot [illegible]

[illegible] satisfied of their being too small [illegible]

[illegible] them again. So I would be obliged [illegible]

[illegible] would send the two coats, the [illegible]

[illegible] and the two pairs of trousers, the [illegible]

the housewife with thread and needles of [illegible]

sizes and some half dozen pocket notebooks that [illegible]

will find I think in the lower drawer of the bureau

of the little room. I should like all of these blank

notebooks that there are. James's room is at No [illegible]

Amity Street and it would be best so [illegible]

bundle.

I find the blue socks fit me quite

though a trifle smaller than [illegible]

I am so well satisfied that [illegible]

[illegible] a long time [illegible]

[illegible]

I [illegible] already [illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] many [illegible] the
[illegible] compasses [illegible]
[illegible] them [illegible] in [illegible].

Joe Lesley says that he had no [illegible]
[illegible] cask, that it was perhaps his [illegible] I
suggest that it was perhaps John Rogers.

I enclose eighty five cents, the cost of the
telegram from New York last Saturday evening,
which I forgot to settle with Father.

Tuesday morning [illegible] New York I [illegible]
to Studleys and readily [illegible] my trunk all
labeled to go by Adams Express to Northampton.
The valise was [illegible] be found there and
[illegible] finding [illegible] treasure [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]. They [illegible] given up [illegible]
for the valise and were [illegible] to send [illegible]
[illegible]. I went to [illegible] Express [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] Depot and found [illegible] valise their [illegible]
[illegible] having Studleys [illegible] for its [illegible]
when I came away in the evening and took possession
[illegible] the valise it turned [illegible] to be marked for
[illegible] 93 instead of 1493, [illegible] were reluctant
give it to me; [illegible] had seen in the [illegible]
was no longer there.

[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] decided [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] go in [illegible] six o'clock train.
But [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] presence
of the [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], I [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible]
evening [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] ferry [illegible] [illegible] rode
and slept in [illegible] until [illegible] [illegible] rived
at my office [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] found
[illegible] door [illegible] [illegible] big [illegible] [illegible]
pounded [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] made [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] covered [illegible] [illegible] before the fire and
slept until [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Joe Lesley [illegible]
[illegible] Silverstone [illegible] made a long [illegible]

[illegible] L. F. [illegible]

I came [illegible] and
made my housekeeper [illegible] at
half past four in the morning.

I wish very much I could accept your
invitation to dinner, next Monday, but I am
more and more convinced as the time [illegible]
that it will be impossible.

[illegible]

James H. Lyman Esq.
No. 15 Nassau Street,
New York City.

139 South Fifth Street, Philadelphia,
7 Jan 1864.

Dear James

Will you be so kind as to [illegible]
[illegible] my passage by [illegible] Wednesday's steamer
for San Francisco [illegible] you a draft on the
Bank of [illegible] New York by the Girard
Bank [illegible] hundred and
twenty five dollars. I understand that is the price
of a passage in the First Cabin. The Upper Deck is
twenty five dollars dearer, but I am told is less com-
fortable. Still, I have my choice and if there is any
difficulty in finding place in the First Cabin you
can secure a berth on the upper deck and I
can pay the remainder when I go to New York. The
total lack of discipline on the [illegible] side of the
[illegible] permits the upper deck [illegible]
the steerage passengers so that it is [illegible]
uncomfortable as a lodging place, and the [illegible]
cabin passengers [illegible] other [illegible] equal rights [illegible]
with the upper deck passengers [illegible]. The agency
of the steamer is at [illegible] Allen's, No 5 Bowl
Green.

The time passed away so agreeably at
Uncle Edward's, Tuesday, that it was too late [illegible]
[illegible] the six o'clock [illegible] before I knew [illegible]

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Mrs. Susan J. Lesley,
Care of Joseph [illegible] Esq.
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] reach [illegible]
day [illegible] for I [illegible] to
[illegible] I [illegible]
yet [illegible]. The [illegible] instruments are not
ready, and I am [illegible] next Wednesday
New York. I hoped to be able to go on to
from Northampton, but my baggage stuck
in New York owing to a blunder of an express
man, and I came back there to look [illegible]
after spending only three days [illegible]
I hoped to work there a few days on my yet
unfinished Nova Scotia work and then [illegible]
a day in Boston. Now my time is so [illegible]
up that I cannot go [illegible] I had no [illegible]
of going away without [illegible] dropping you a [illegible]
and do not now mean to be like the man [illegible]
"never writ to his friends since."

I am very sorry that [illegible] delay [illegible]
not enable me to see your husband. [illegible]
tells me today you have [illegible] of [illegible]

I have ransacked [illegible] without finding
a trace of those Nova Scotia papers and notes

[illegible] I shall have to leave to him, in consequence of this or still more to do that I otherwise should have done.

Tell [illegible] I am sorry I cannot see her [illegible] before. [illegible] I hope [illegible] you have [illegible] fatigue from watching her.

My address in San [illegible] is in the [illegible] of Duncan Sherman & Co. [illegible] that I [illegible] address; in fact I understand we are going to [illegible] place seven [illegible] miles from [illegible] office. Still, [illegible] be occasionally [illegible] communication between our party and the [illegible] worldly [illegible] any friends [illegible] write as often as if the communication were frequent. I am for my own part resolved to [illegible] [illegible] write [illegible] than [illegible].

I hope to write to some one of [illegible] family before I sail; but if I should find no leisure moment until I am on the Steamer, I wish you would tell them of my [illegible] and give them a great deal of love [illegible]

[illegible] Brewers seem to be enjoying their visit very much. Miss Mary Ann Archer [illegible] that evening there, and after tea we all played Bésigue, my first initiation into the mysteries of that game. I [illegible] partly for the benefit of my companion on the Steamer and in Arizona.

[illegible] should receive [illegible] or shortly before your return there. Remember me to Miss Robbins, Dr. Howe and my other friends there [illegible] Chauncey wright [illegible] improves.

I saw Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Wright last [illegible]. They inquired very particularly you. I [illegible], before calling on them, at Mrs. Salwell's with Joe. They seemed all pretty well [illegible] Joe seems rather worried just now by [illegible] great press of business in [illegible] office.

Very affectionately yours.

Benj: Smith Lyman

[illegible]

by a [illegible] graph of fifteen
good fellows. I have seen [illegible] like [illegible]
others of the party [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible]
two [illegible]
[illegible]
in [illegible] a vision [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] which [illegible]
[illegible] expedition,
[illegible] gold is [illegible]
[illegible] however
[illegible] taken [illegible]
[illegible]
willing [illegible] place [illegible]
[illegible] exploration. [illegible] and
[illegible] whole party, but
the only pay [illegible] interest in the
results of the exploration [illegible] each one is bound
by his interest [illegible] the expedition I
alone insisted upon [illegible] guaranteed a certain
salary in case I should [illegible] that instead of the
interest offered me. [illegible] was one twenty-fourth
of the whole, and the salary was three thousand dollars
[illegible] The agreement is for not more than two years
and it is hoped to accomplish the objects of the expedition
[illegible]
If [illegible] should [illegible] before I go, address
[illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

Dear Sanborn,

I [illegible] expressly that I
not have reached Northampton in time to see
I hoped, while there, to return by way of [illegible]
and still see you. But my baggage went
astray in New York, and I shipped my [illegible]
at Northampton in order to go and hunt it [illegible]
for it was of importance not merely on [illegible]
ing things necessary for my long journey, but
also material for finishing up my Rara Sectio
work. This work, which I intended to finish at
Northampton in the course of this week, occupies
me still here; and I have so many interruptions
on account of my preparation for the journey
that it will be impossible for me to finish the
map. I must therefore do as much work on it
as I can and give the rest as a job to Mr. [illegible]
on his return. He is expected now to arrive in
a couple of weeks; so that I shall miss [illegible]
ing him.

I am to sail next Wednesday from
New York. I expect to leave the city late Mo
night or Tuesday and stay the rest of the [illegible]
in New York.

[illegible] in San Francisco will
in the [illegible] Sherman [illegible]. I [illegible]
[illegible] we shall be soon beyond the reach of fre-
quent mails; in fact they say we shall be seventy
or eighty miles from the nearest post office. But
I mean to be more constant and regular in
my correspondence, and hope that you will [illegible]
discouraged by the prospect of such irregu-
larity in the receipt of your favors. They will
be all the more welcome when they do arrive.
I hope also to continue to receive the Commonwealth
and would be obliged to you if you would an-
nounce at the office of the paper my change of
address. This week's paper has just arrived. I
am much pleased with the literary notices and
the first page generally; the literary review I at-
tribute to you. I thought it also possible you con-
tributed the notices of Thoreau in the two last numbers,
but chiefly because I knew of no one else who could
have written it. Some things in it made me think
it written by a woman. My sister Mary made
me a New Year's present of Thoreau's Excursions,
and I found two or three pieces in it that I had
not seen before, including the biographical sketch.
I like much of Thoreau's writings, but I often lose
all patience with his continual fault finding [illegible]

[illegible] human nature and his complete inability to see the amiable
side of human weaknesses. No bug or worm is not
a thousand times more admirable to him than
this sneaking contemptible biped, because, it would
seem, they are natural, while [illegible] man is not.
In spite of his travels and his evident fondness
for traveling, I think he joined with Emerson in
disparaging remarks on traveling, and perhaps
went further than Emerson in that regard. I
make bold, as a traveler by profession, to contro-
vert them both, and to say that "traveling to
the fools paradise," staying at home is the idiot.
To travel or to stay at home for mere pleasure are
both [illegible] base, but the more inactive is probably
the worse in almost every respect. I say this the
more because I covet the quiet of staying at home.
Behold what a philosopher your humble servant has
become!

I believe you are still much in the dark
about my journey to Arizona. I am to be one
of a party of about twenty five, most of them
laborers and mechanics, who go out under
the leadership of John Wyeth of this City to ex-
plore for mineral lands in Arizona or the ad-
joining territories. Wyeth [illegible] druggist here and
has chemical works in the city; he is said to have

[illegible] I am also furnished with a [illegible] and [illegible] for [illegible], the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. Besides that I have been [illegible] myself [illegible] with the smaller articles [illegible] in [illegible] in agrological exploration, [illegible] [illegible], pocket level and [illegible].

I am going to give up my office here that I opened last winter, my address will be in [illegible] Care of Duncan, Sherman & Co. San Francisco and if you should ever have a [illegible] to write me, it would give me great pleasure to hear from you. If there should be any document for me with reference to my right of search at Glace Bay, you might send it to Mr. Lesley when you write about the Richard McDonell tract.

Remember me kindly to your charming wife and pretty children and to the rest of your family, and believe me ever

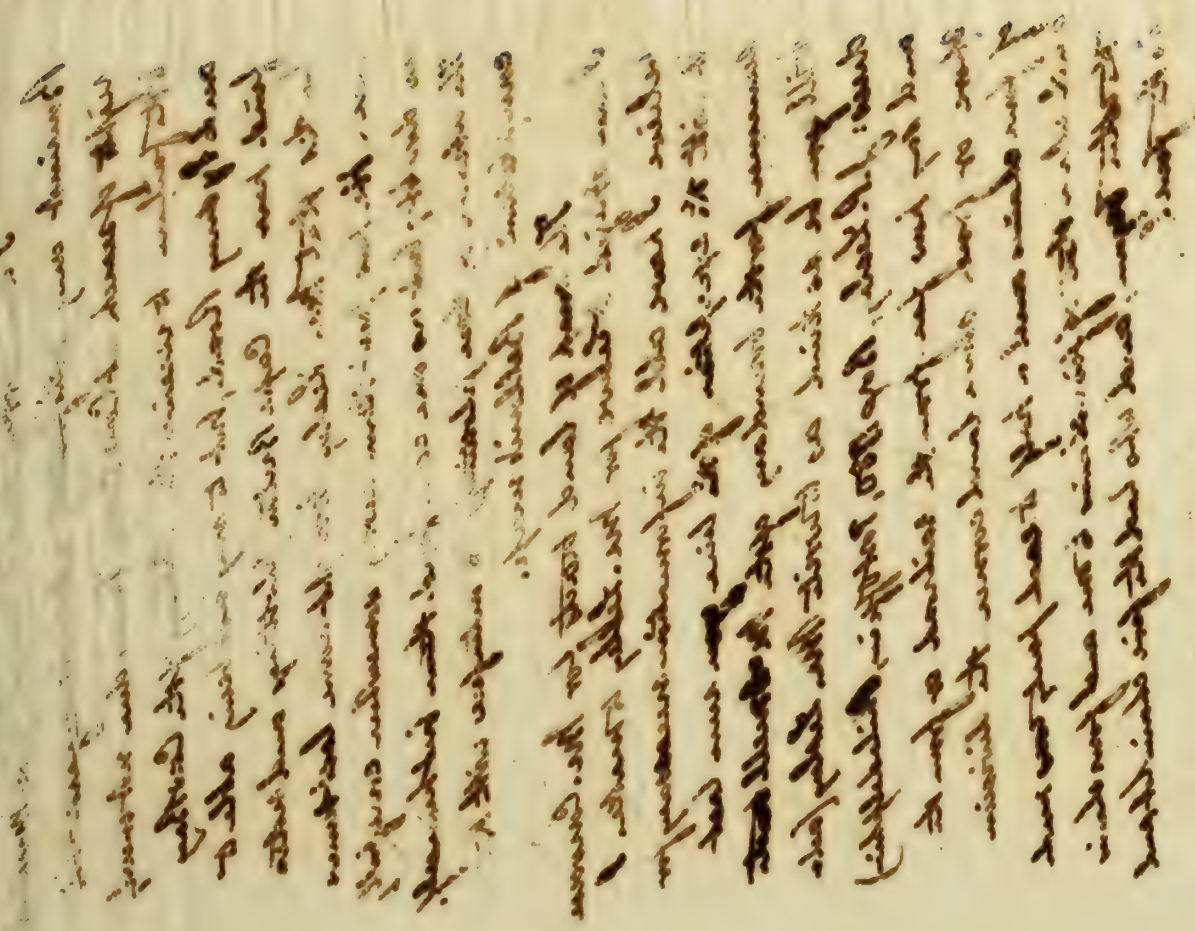
Your affectionate friend,
Benj: Smith Lyman.

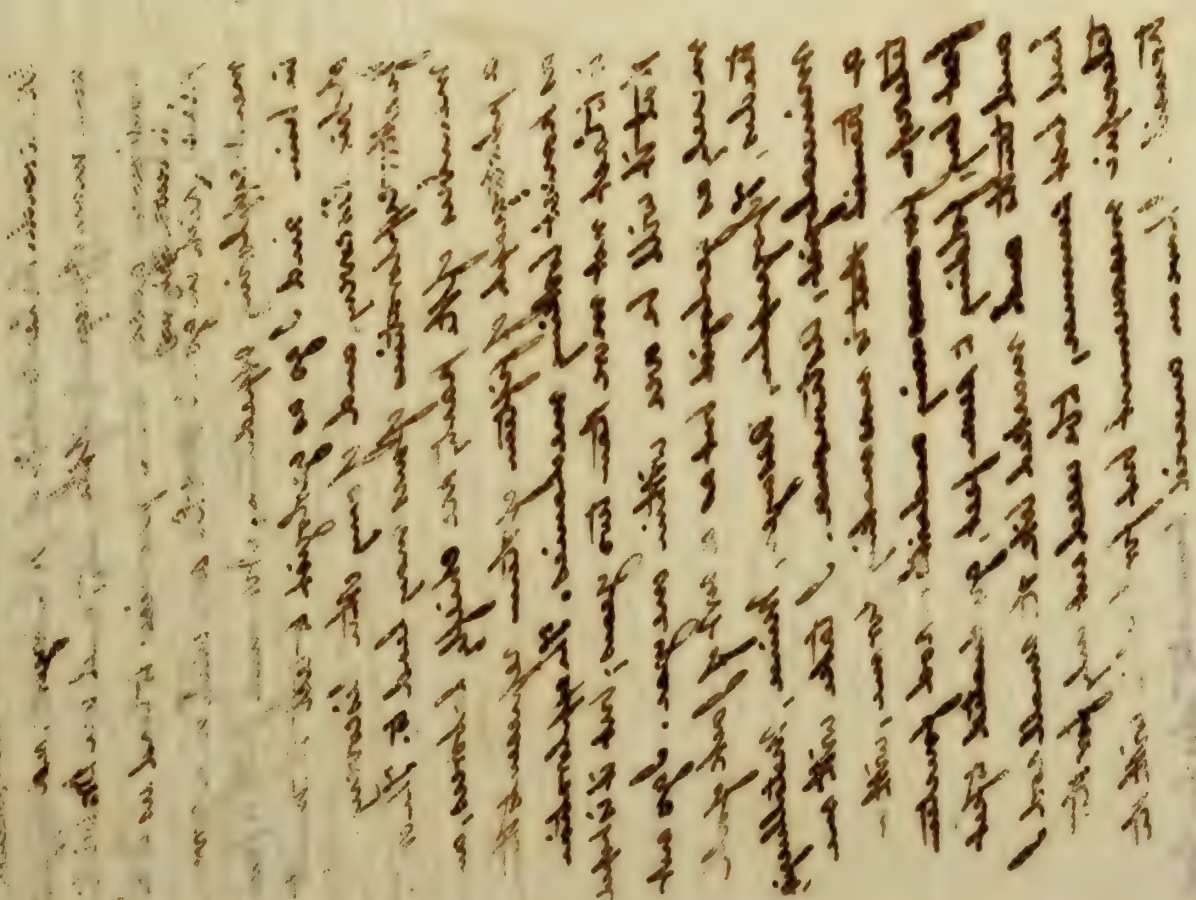
[illegible]

[illegible] June 1864.

My dear Hendry;

I suppose the [illegible] have heard nothing from you since seeing that you are ignorant of my address. I glanced to give it you under the impression that you knew it already. Your letter of [illegible] December from Tuscon about the [illegible] desired by Archibald of Mr. [illegible] Harbor was been forwarded [illegible]. I am much obliged to you for procuring me this work as if I could do the work; and I have felt all along much more grateful than I have probably seemed for attention of this kind, as well as of many other kinds, on your part towards me. Although I had no claims upon you, your conduct towards me has benefitted me more and in more ways than you probably imagined, and I should have been at a loss in any case how to repay one half the obligation. As it is, I am hurried away to Arizona and cannot attend even to those little matters of mass copying that Mr. Lesley left for me to do when he went away. He is expected home now in a few days, and will no doubt attend himself





...letter.

I a... Baurist any ... right of search ... does not ensure the failure to receive ... the Cow Bay and Sydney Road, but to ... being able to land here the Cape Breton clothing and victuals ... to start Mr. Libby for ... Mr. Conover ... Mr. Libby ... Ballantine ...

The work of land boards for Mr. Conover ... Mr. Libby to make. I believe I have all the information necessary for ... Mr. Libby's location of the lines you run last summer for the boundary of ... Will you be so kind as to write Mr. Libby (address: J.P. Libby, Box 780, Post Office, Philadelphia) and say how far from the railroad or from the shore or from what land corner the division of your claims and a half to each party runs and ... also a statement of ... claims to me and four claims to Mr. Ballantine ... and who had the five claims bound to the four.

...

...

...

[illegible] I may be in the
to [illegible], but as I have never
[illegible] New York, [illegible]
shall [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] to go
[illegible] [illegible]

If you telegraph it will be at my [illegible]
[illegible] if you [illegible] pay in [illegible] I
will [illegible] with you when I see you.

[illegible] Respectfully Yours.

[illegible]

[illegible] letter [illegible] [illegible] you
sign by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

James H. Lyman Esq.

No. 15 Nassau Street,

New York City.

139 South Fifth Street, Philadelphia.
10 Jan. 1861.

Dear James:

I wrote you last Tuesday asking you to secure my passage in the California steamer and enclosing a draft for two hundred and forty five dollars ($245) [illegible] reply [illegible] I fear my letter may have gone astray. In case [illegible] I wish you would [illegible] payment of the draft as soon as possible after receipt [illegible] so that I may have [illegible] [illegible] I suppose [illegible] must do [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I wish you would telegraph me as soon [illegible] you have received the draft or not. If you have mailed a reply [illegible] I shall get it tomorrow [illegible] [illegible] telegram will be unnecessary. The draft was [illegible] by the Girard Bank here on the Bank of North America in New York [illegible] was dated the seventh of January, and numbered forty. It was [illegible] payable to me, but I endorsed it payable to you. You would better keep the passage [illegible] if you have not already sent it to me; as I might miss it.

I shall not be able to dine with you tomorrow evening. I expect to reach New York about three

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139 South Fifth Street Philadelphia; 10 Jan. 18[illegible]

My dear Mr. Lesley;

When I agreed three weeks ago to go to Arizona, I offered you two hundred dollars to finish up the two Glen Bay maps [illegible] in case you could not do it at the same price. I should [illegible] do it because you are [illegible] familiar with the localities [illegible] I thought then [illegible] I could finish up my Cow Bay [illegible] I have [illegible] by getting my outfit of instruments [illegible] had scarcely any time left for maps [illegible] report unfinished, and by you do the rest for [illegible] dollars. I do not think that all this work will occupy you [illegible] three weeks; but I should be sorry to give it to you to do for less than [illegible] hundred dollars a week. I am sorry to do even this in your absence [illegible] is the time for you to make money in your profession, wh[illegible] demand for geological surveys; and I am afraid [illegible] will interfere with something more lucrative. You could probably [illegible] Cow Bay map and report perfectly well, but as [illegible] Bellaire knows [illegible] and scarcely at all about him I should much prefer to have you [illegible] himself suggested in the outset some such arrangement, when it [illegible] for me to go away soon. One difficulty may be this: I promised [illegible] the survey to keep its results secret except so far as he might permit [illegible] to divulge them. I have not been able to persuade him to take a different course and if you should undertake the finishing of the map you would have to keep [illegible] manner. This might be very disagreeable to [illegible] on the [illegible] might be of some service. For I am satisfied that [illegible] made of his leases adjoining [illegible] apparently he must, the [illegible] to you, just as Bello. [illegible] has given [illegible] I [illegible] the Blockhouse [illegible] the Campo [illegible] we opposed. I [illegible]

had thought how much it impedied. It is no discovery made in his survey that Archibald's McCauley coal is the Ross coal so that that is no secret. And the consequences of the Block house being the Ladyman alters very greatly the aspect of the Cow Bay Basin. The great point of survey that remains is the exact course of the synclinal axis and the distance to which the Block house coal goes back.

In making a copy for Mr. Poole of your Glace Bay map I found that you had not located rightly the outcrop of the Campbell vein back of Bouteliers and at the Brook; either because you had lost the notes I gave you about it or because they had been confused. This error so altered the strike of the bed as to make you confound the Back Pit coal and the Bouteillier coal [illegible] cliff. When the strike of the Campbell bed was rectified and also that of the Harbor Bed was made a little more correct, they were found to be just about parallel and [illegible] to that was the course from the Bouteillier bed to the three foot bed on the Brook down stream from the Back Pit. The true course of the Back Pit coal is towards the ferry at the mouth of Big Glace Lake and its presence there is evident not [illegible] from the [illegible] on the north shore there by the fence, but by the black coal [illegible] up by the dwarf on the bar. The dwarf exposes in the same way the position of the Campbell bed and of the Ross bed. Before [illegible] this error in the map I had put in with [illegible] at Mr. Howe's [illegible] the outcrop of the imaginary Bouteillier Back Pit Bed and also parallel to that and to the Campbell bed the outcrop of the Ross bed. I changed all that on Mr. Poole's copy. There seems no way to correct the original map but to make an entire copy of it, and I agreed in Boston to do that. The other map to be done for the Boston folks is the map of land lots at Glace Bay. I leave you a tracing of the [illegible] position of the outcrops of the different beds at Glace Bay where they come down to the shores of the sea and of the brook so that they can be laid in with ease. I leave all the necessary materials, I believe, in connection with the tracing of the land lots that Hendry sent you last summer, for the land lot map, except one boundary of the Richard [illegible] [illegible] tract which was changed a little last summer. I have written [illegible] to send you the necessary information in regard to that. In

[illegible] should be any errors to detect in the materials, contrary to my [illegible] original words are in the Courier writing in Notes, and can be [illegible] time if necessary; and I have

I leave in box 6 all the remaining [illegible] and drafts; and I would refer notes in pencil and Italic is needed [illegible] in the various pieces of work.

If you are unwilling [illegible] the Courier work under an agreement of secrecy, I hope [illegible] will be satisfied as far as the secrecy is concerned.

I regret extremely that I cannot see you before [illegible] for so long a time; and I fear [illegible] but I shall Halifax to see you as you pass.

I have at last a good outfit of [illegible] Mr. Young has been making me a [illegible] cross hairs for measuring and a rod, graduated to feet [illegible] and marked with my own system of diamonds. [illegible] for the expedition with a solar [illegible] of Young [illegible] emerald of my own and allots me the most [illegible] way or reconnaissance or in map making. I must thank you [illegible] for the use this long time of your instruments. I hope the [illegible] records as good as before I borrowed. [illegible] I left them up I think by Israel the [illegible] I will [illegible] angles with [illegible] and [illegible] Bay did not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

11 Jan. [illegible]

Notes with regard to the new copy of
the Glace Bay Map.

The tracing will show the position of the corp of each bed and of its water level at the [illegible] of the Bay and on the Brook.

The line Q would perhaps [illegible] plotted from my notes as [illegible] on the map.

In other respects the [illegible] might be a few [illegible] of the origin.

Notes with regard to the Map of
Land Sects at Glace Bay.

The land lines, fences, roads, houses, streams and the like, without [illegible] lines and geology are to be represented on this map.

A tracing sent to J. P. Lesley last summer by Mr. Hensley will show general arrangement of the land lots, and the names in whose they stands.

All the lots owned by the Glace Bay Company are to be indicated by continuous lines; the other lots adjoining by dotted lines; so [illegible] distinction is to be maintained, and in such a way that new [illegible] of the Glace Bay Company may be indicated in future on the [illegible] same system.

All the lots now belonging to the Glace Bay company are [illegible] in Book II. (Bell's Survey) pages 8 and following. One [illegible] [illegible] in Book III. Glace Bay Survey, page 78. The [illegible] lot, bought this last summer, is represented and plotted [illegible] on a small piece of paper. The lot bought of Nicholas [illegible] of the north of Big Glace Bay is given in a tracing. The tracing of the [illegible] back lot is [illegible] as [illegible] in Book III.

19

ied from the record of the deed.

The Grant to John M'Donald [illegible] is commonly called Donald [illegible].

"Donald Black's Grant" was really granted to [illegible].

The courses and distances of the [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] may be found in the [illegible] (VIII 8 [illegible])

It would perhaps be best to [illegible] the courses and distances [illegible] the land land lines of the map.

Care should be taken to give the names correctly.

The lots belonging to the [illegible] Company may be [illegible] and distinguished by the names of the persons from whom they [illegible] either by the Company or by Mr. Archibald.

10 Jan. 1884.

Notes in regard to the preparation of the Bellari (Cow Bay) Map and Report.

There remains to be plotted: the houses, fences and other such outlying stations in Books I. II. & III.; also in Book IV (Cow Bay Survey) beyond (M 12) if the map requires it. Not many of these remain to be plotted in I. II. III.

There remains to be pricked through, already plotted: Stations on the line K.

A. Stations on the line from (A40a) to (F6f)

B. " " " " " (A40a) to (A40g)

C. " (A57), (A59) & (A60a).

D. Archibald's Wharf

E. That part of the line M that lies between Archibald's mine & Bellari's.

This last was brought down all plotted with the notebook by J. P. Lesley, last summer. If it is no more to be found, the underground workings of the Gowrie [illegible] (see tracing) may supply some of the lacking information.

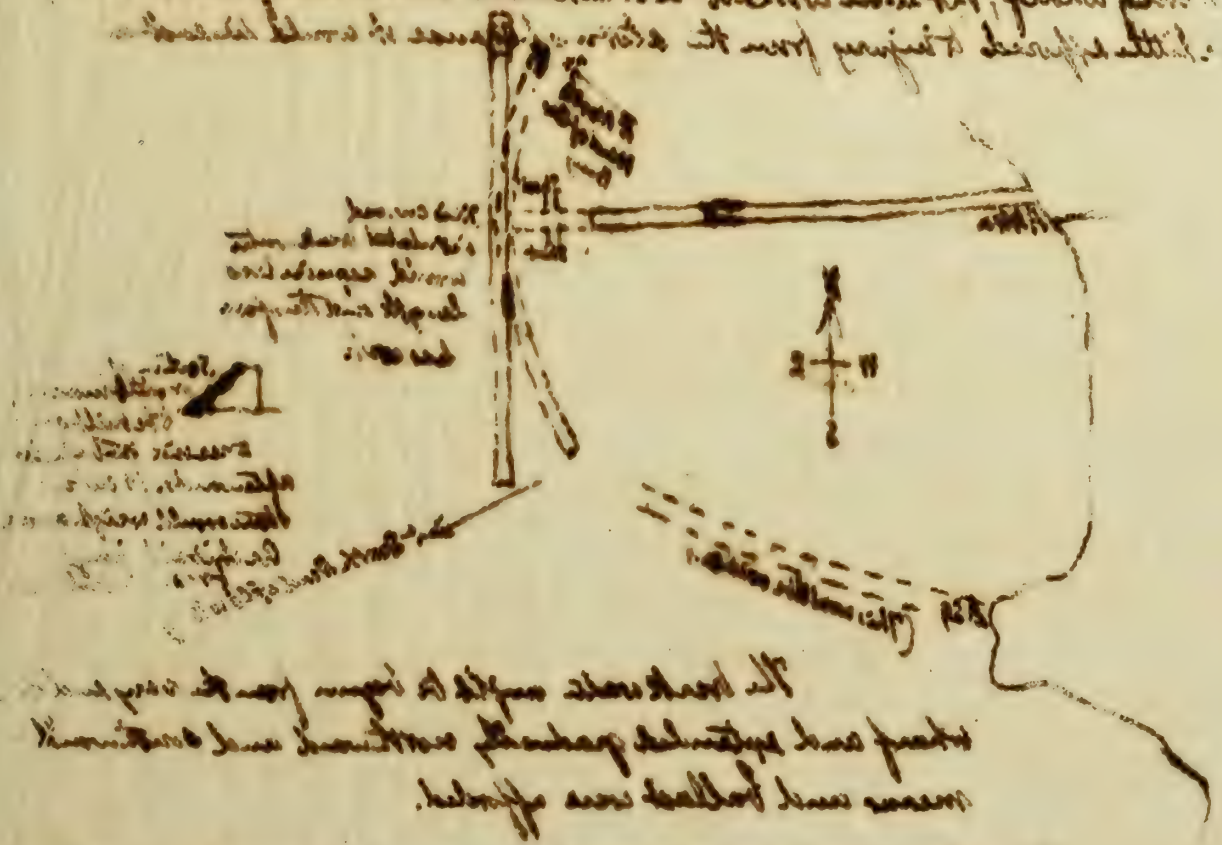
It was intended to dot in the 5 foot levels; but the finisher of the map can [illegible] choose about this.

The stations without numbered stakes on the ground have red rings and [illegible] numbers; those with numbered stakes (all odd numbers) were to have black ones; but from (A58) to (A89) red ones have been given already by mistake. All the stations of the line K are staked and numbered.

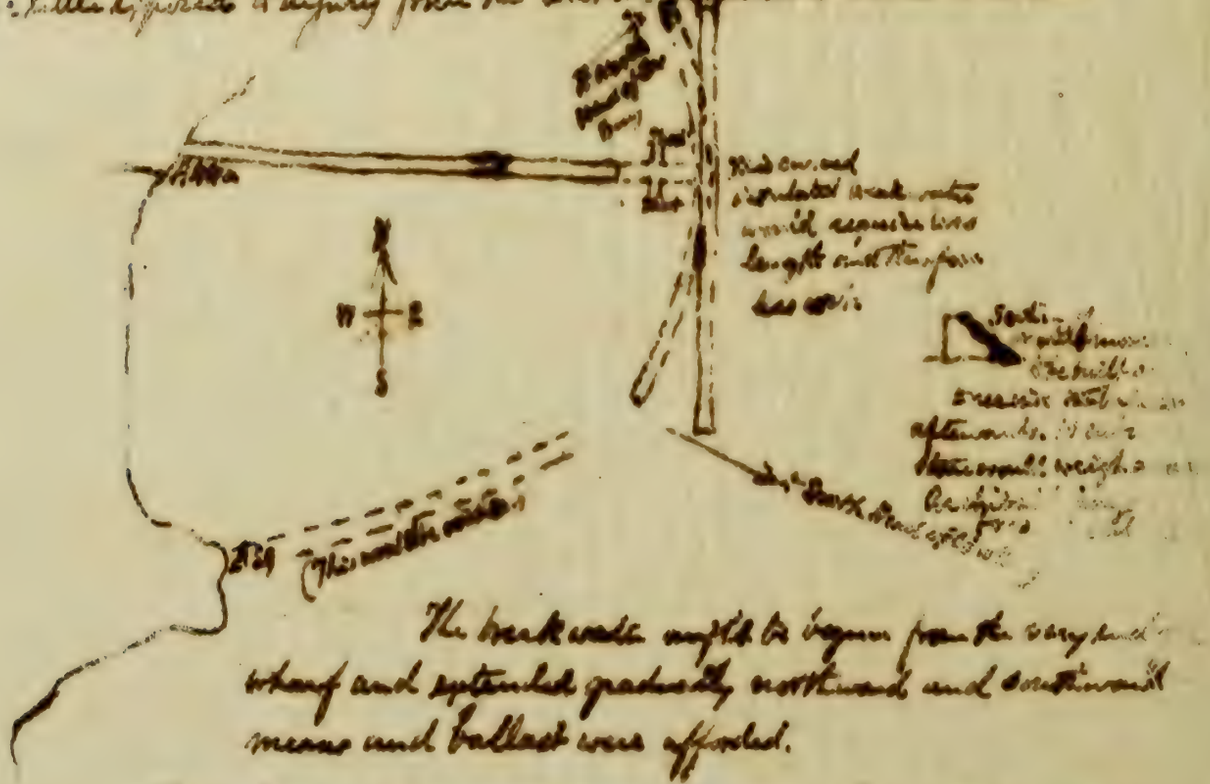
The map is to include the whole of the first lease, the productive part of the second lease and the whole of the third (submarine) lease, excepting perhaps the eastern corner of this last.

There is to be a profile section of the cliffs along the shore projected upon a line at right angles with the synclinal axis, near the bottom of the map. The synclinal axis runs lengthwise with the shore. The section may represent the coals below the water level as far as [illegible] bottom of the basin of the Blockhouse coal. Between the coal beds are [illegible] any thing but sandstone and sandy shales.

Nothing definite could be ascertained with regard to the thickness of the two coals between the Blockhouse and the McCauley. They were both thought to be about four feet thick by the country people who had worked them. The amount of coal they contain in these leases will have to be calculated for a thickness of two feet, so that the [illegible] amount can be easily reduced when this [illegible]


N
W
E
S

Mr. Bellows desires any advice that may be given in regard to working the leases. He recommends a series of pits at the ends of the basin with a single short railroad of any easy grade over the Point [illegible] with a wharf there, and a covered gallery, or better a simple straight stretch of [illegible] and distance from shore, long enough to prevent ice at the wharf. It is only hard ground in this bay; the bottom [illegible] and the ice [illegible]. The water is so clear that [illegible] would require a long wharf; but even without a breakwater such a wharf [illegible] little exposed to injury from the storms [illegible]

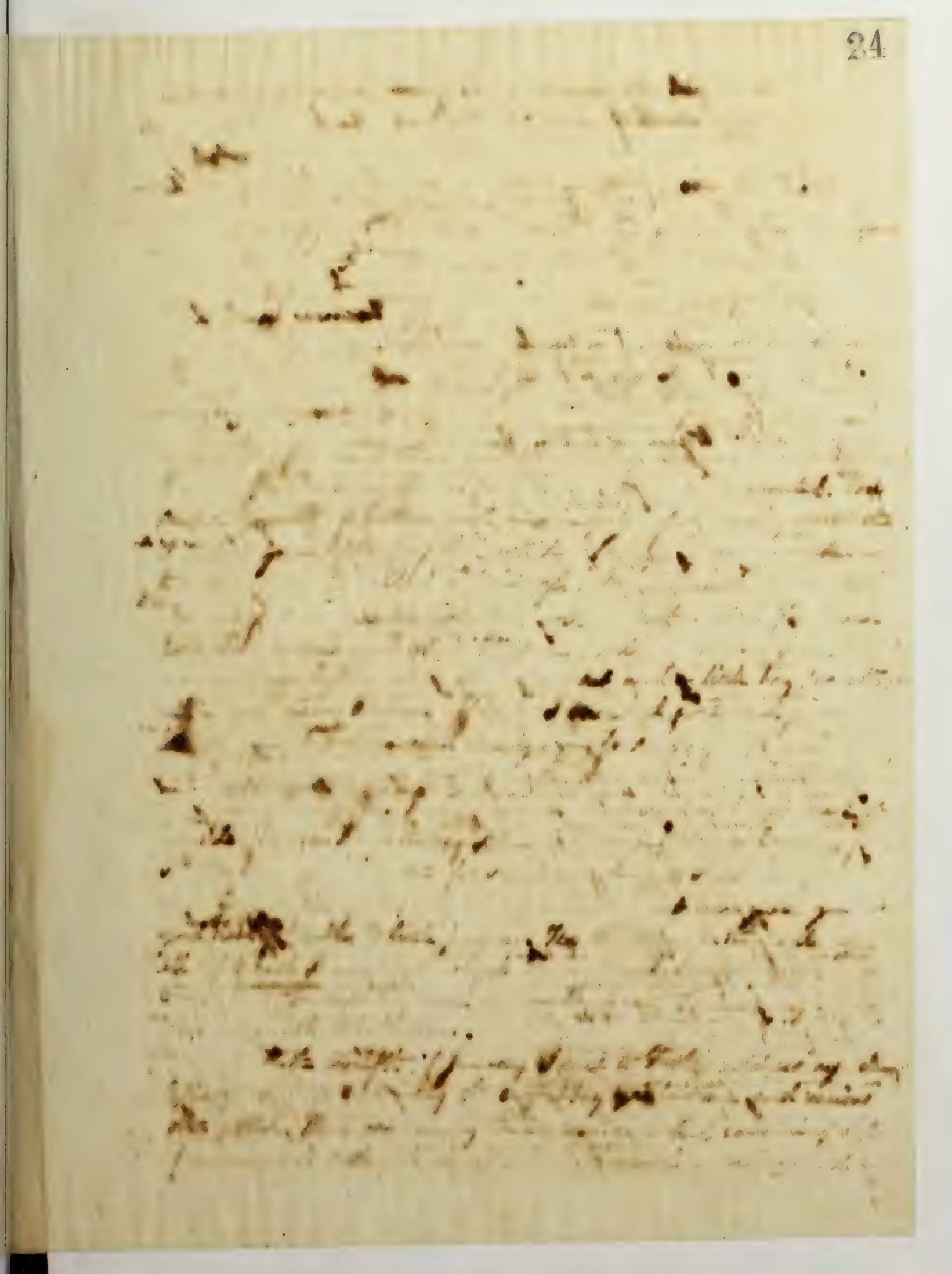

W
E
S
Rock excavated to make water would require this length and this depth
Rock excavated to make water would require this length and this depth
Rock

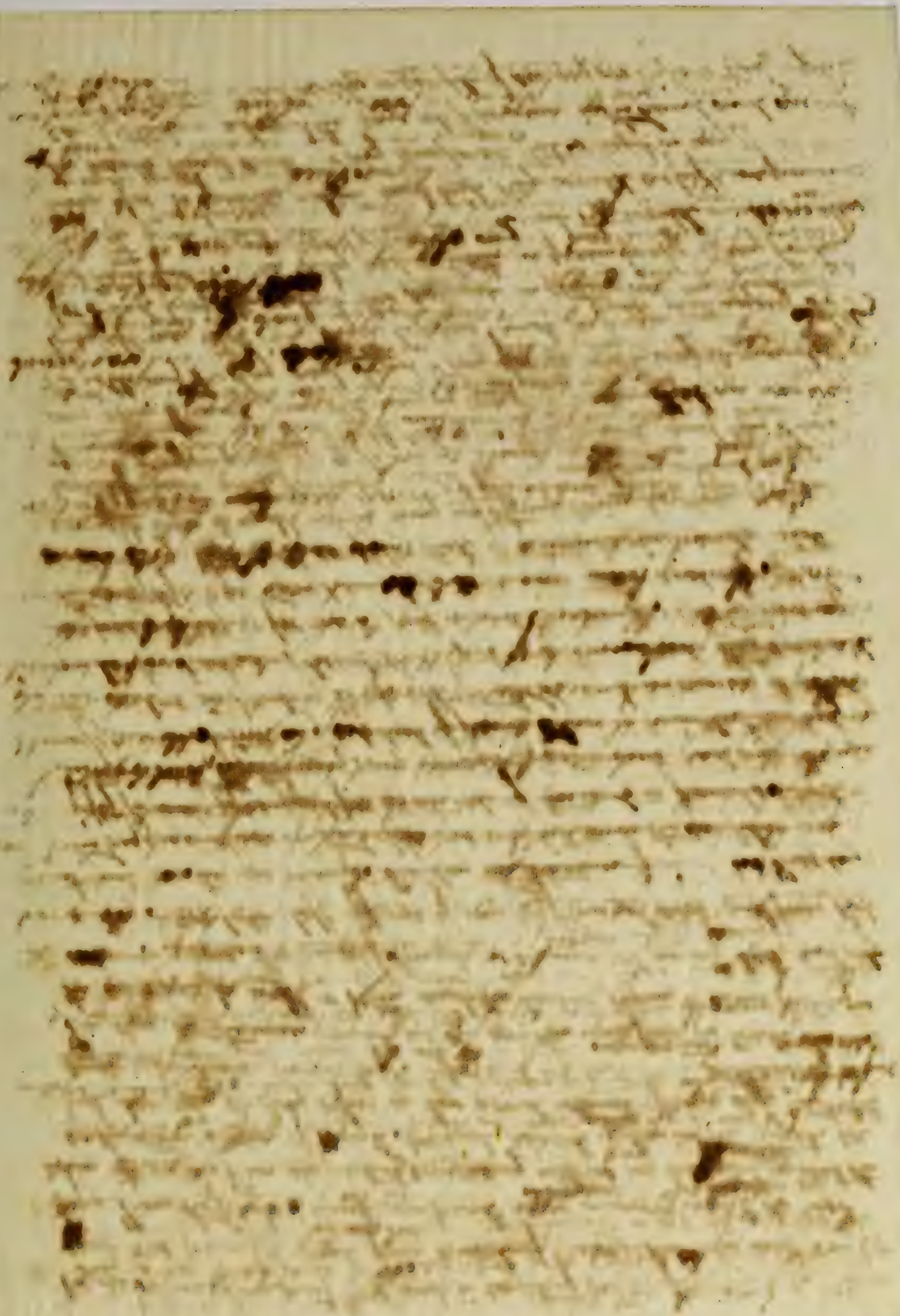
The breakwater might be begun from the bay end of the wharf and extended gradually northward and eastward as means and ballast were afforded.

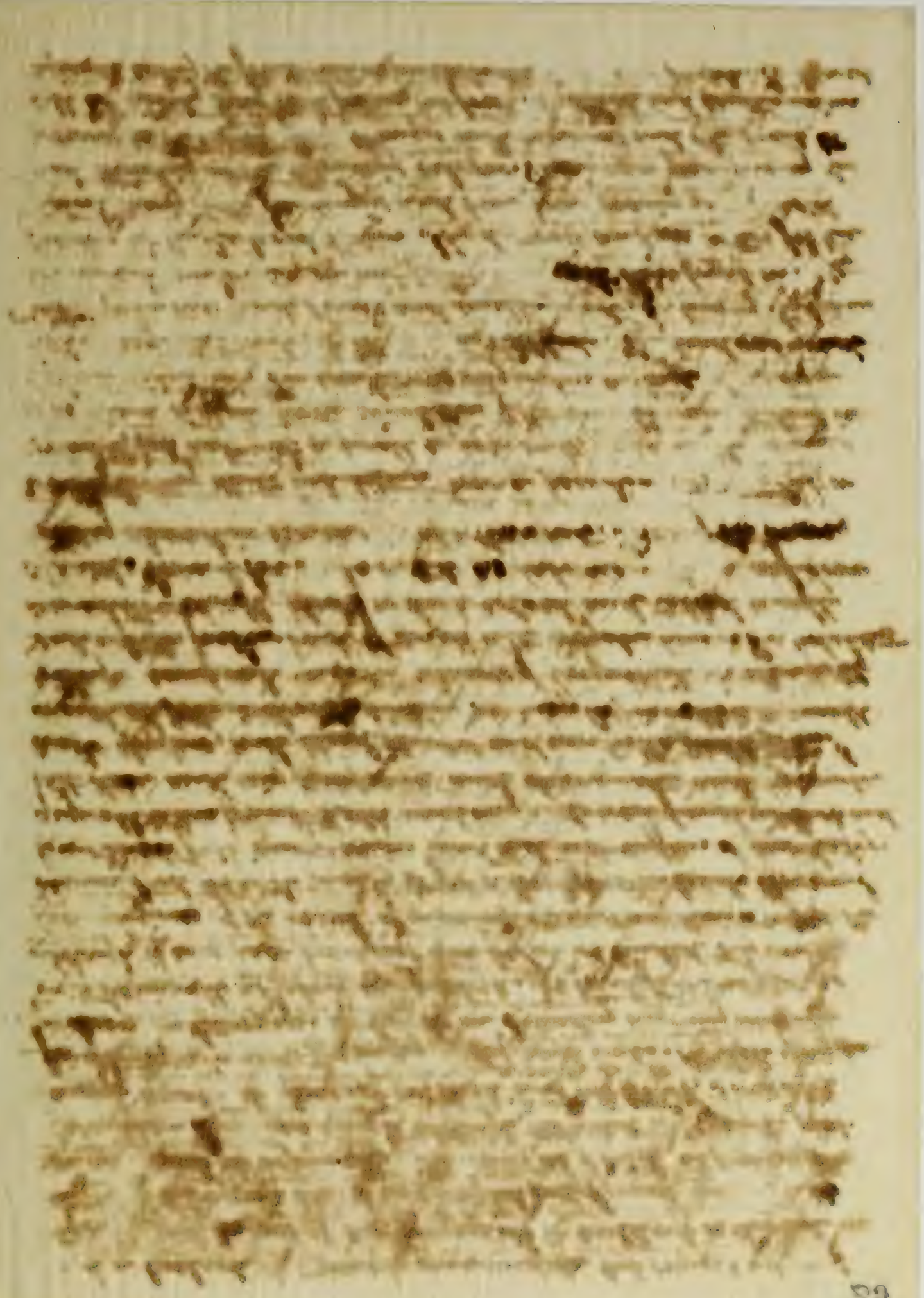
Some idea of the length of the breakwater may be formed from the chart of the coast and harbor of Port Lyttelton by J. P. Lyttelton, late commander in the Navy.

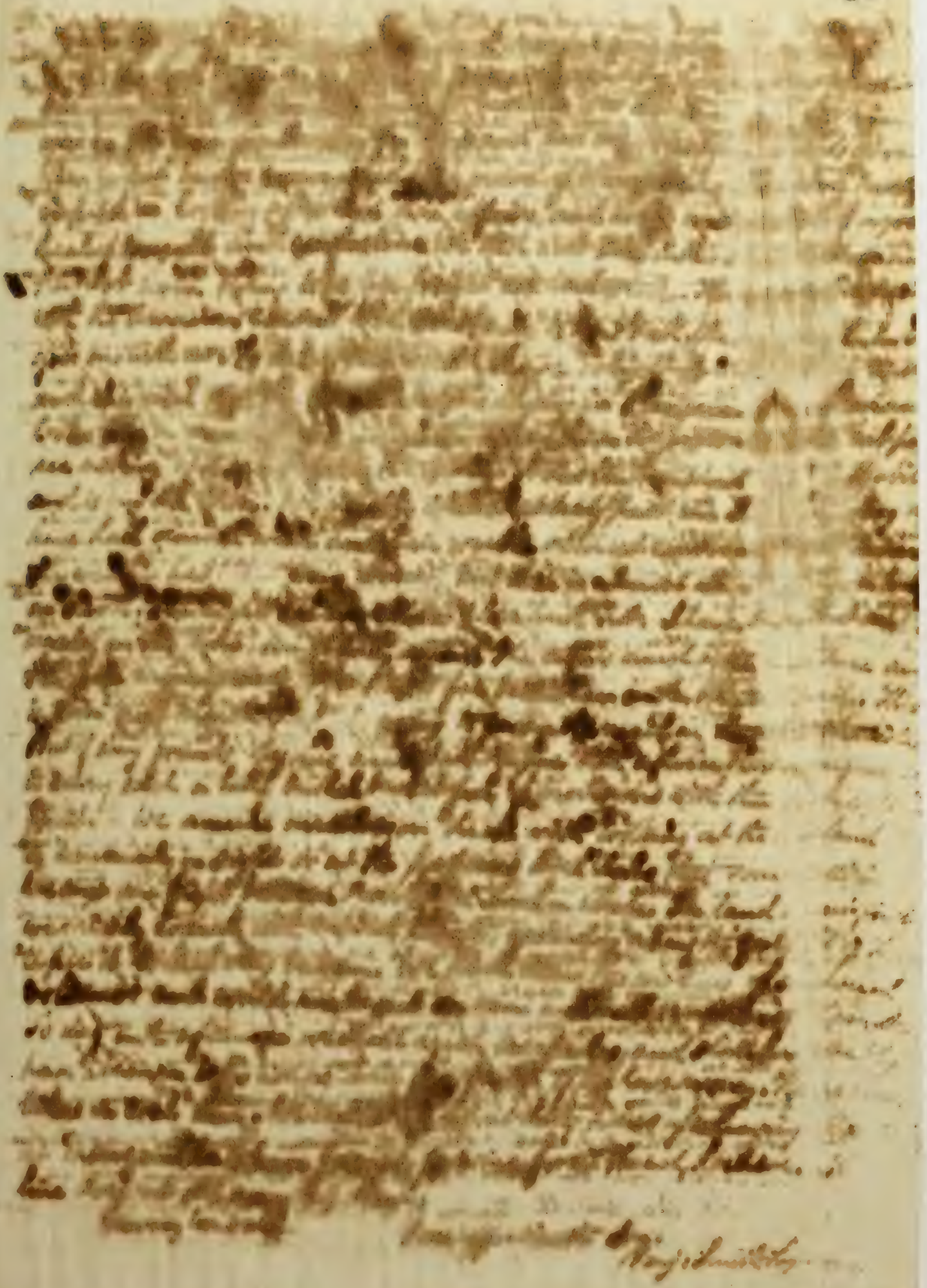
Such a wharf and breakwater would no doubt be costly; but [illegible] would require [illegible] the coal over [illegible] a great deal [illegible] the land. The second and third leases would be [illegible] line of central pits. The water of the [illegible] to run out by the water level [illegible] by means of a turbine. If [illegible] this system of pits could not be carried [illegible] and diminish the expenses of the two last [illegible]

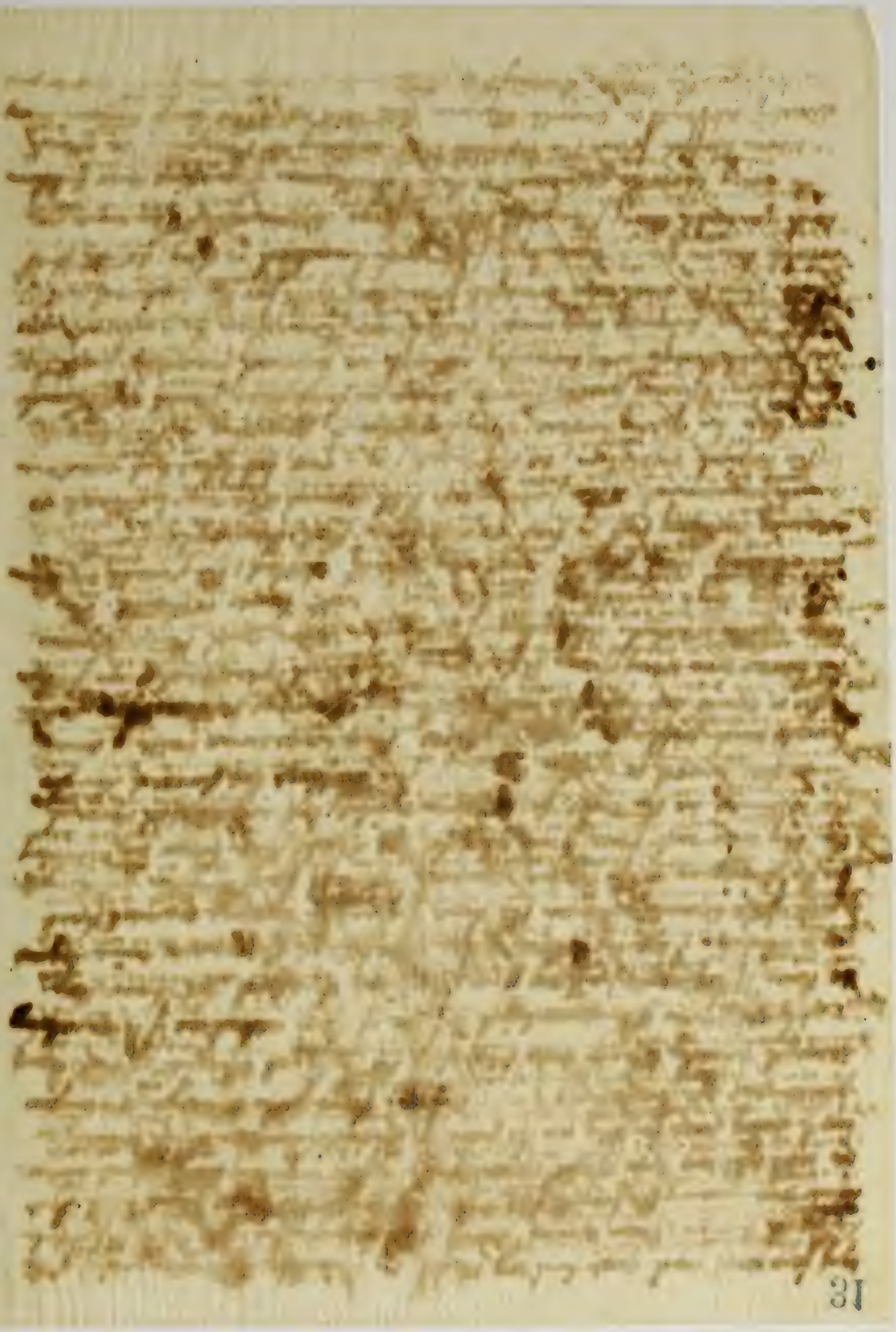
R. S. L.











[illegible] dans une [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Cette exploration me [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

A bord du [illegible] Age, 1 Février 1864

Mon cher Bouillier

Vous [illegible] peut-être [illegible] que votre bonne lettre du printemps de 1862 ne me fut jamais [illegible] que je vous [illegible] tout le fait [illegible]. Pas du tout. La lettre [illegible] et j'ai [illegible] [illegible] à vous [illegible] lettre et à mon devoir de vous en remercier. Mais [illegible] que je [illegible] à [illegible] [illegible] cela depuis deux ans bien plus qu'au pa-

[illegible] me rappelle que j'allais vous écrire bientôt après [illegible] votre lettre, mais j'ai différé à tort parce que je voulais [illegible] une description de l'école forestière de la Saxe qui se trouve à Tharandt, aux lieues de Freiberg, espérant la visiter de semaine en semaine mais enfin n'y allant pas.

Votre changement de vie et d'études m'a beaucoup intéressé. Votre vie tranquille et en même temps active [illegible] l'avez fait passable charmante. Moi aussi j'ai trouvé belle la vie de l'agriculture et dans mon enfance je disais toujours que je [illegible] [illegible] je trouve combien [illegible] je regrette presque que je n'ai pas suivi l'agriculture et votre lettre me fait envie de vous.

Je vais vous donner une petite [illegible] de ma vie depuis le printemps de 1862, espérant que [illegible]

[illegible] cela je suis retourné à Philadelphie pour m'y établir comme géologue et ingénieur des mines. Je pense que vous savez déjà qu'il n'y a pas jusqu'ici aux [illegible] de corps d'ingénieurs des mines, et que chacun

a fait ingénieur trouve le travail qui l'occupera parmi les particuliers, et non pas du gouvernement. J'ai ouvert un bureau, comme l'aurait fait un avocat, et j'ai attendu à ce qu'on me donnerait de commandes de surveys géologiques ou topographiques ou d'autres travaux d'ingénieur des mines. Enfin M. Lesley, qui est depuis longtemps très connu comme géologue et topographe aux États-Unis, avait un survey à faire à l'Ile du Cap Breton (Nouvelle Écosse) une compagnie principalement américaine à des concessions houillères. M. Lesley a pu me faire employer comme son aide. J'y suis allé au mois de Mai, et il m'a suivi un mois plus tard. Il n'a resté que six semaines mais je n'ai fini mon travail à cet endroit qu'au mois d'Octobre. Après cela j'ai resté dans le même pays encore six semaines pour faire un survey semblable pour un individu de New York qui a des concessions aussi là-bas. M. Lesley en quittant ce pays là avait laissé le seul géologue qui comprenait la structure géologique du pays et j'étais par conséquent beaucoup

On board the Steamer Golden Age 2 Feb. 1854.

Henry Poole Esq.
Castle Glen Bay.

If you have not already sent the Box left behind either [illegible] direct to Boston, you would oblige me by changing the Philadelphia address written on it into: "Care of Hon. S. F. Lyman, Northampton, Massachusetts," and the Boston address into: "Care of Thompson & Co's Express, Court Street"; and by sending it then by a vessel going to Boston, when the season opens. As I expect to be gone a year or two away from home there is no hurry about the matter.

After leaving you I had the good luck to reach Halifax just in time for the steamer to Boston, and to find on it for fellow passengers, Dr. Howe, Mr. Emory, Mr. Bellini, and one or two other Boston acquaintances. On arriving in Boston I handed over your barometer to Mr. Converse with your request to have it adjusted and he also made a note in his memorandum book with regard to the raingauge and the plotting paper that you desired. I hope that you have received all three by this time through Mr. [illegible].

I went on immediately to Philadelphia [illegible] about

good deal of a swell, probably on account of the gulf [illegible]
that combined with this writing makes me decidedly [illegible]
as that I might spit.

My address is: Care of Duncan Sherman & Co. [illegible]
Francisco, California. If I could be of any service to you [illegible]
this [illegible] it would give me great pleasure [illegible]
Pl[illegible] me kindly to Mr. Archbold and
[illegible] you may happen to see.

Very sincerely yours.
Benj: Smith Lyman.

[illegible] rapid transition from the cold of mid winter at New York
[illegible] midsummer heat of the tropics is very striking. We
[illegible] sight of Bogotá and other [illegible]
[illegible] crossing the Isthmus of Panama we had for several [illegible]
the strange sights of the tropical vegetation and fruits the
[illegible] natives with their light costumes, cool houses and
[illegible] villages, and the customs peculiar to such a [illegible]
[illegible] people. [illegible] leaving Panama we [illegible]
great [illegible] of the Central American and [illegible]
[illegible] first the shore was covered with a luxuriant growth of
tropical plants. After that the soil seemed [illegible]
but our interest was still excited by the [illegible]
we could see a small eruption from [illegible]
Three days ago we touched at Acapulco to take in coal
and had a sight of the little villages [illegible]
natives, and its fine harbor. The port is blockaded by the
French but not yet captured. More French troops were daily
expected there. Yesterday we touched at Manzanilla to leave [illegible]
freight and passengers. We are now crossing the gulf of
California. The water on this side of the Isthmus has been in
general very smooth and the weather delightful, but some
times too warm especially below deck. Now the weather is
little cooler, and although there is little sound there is a

San Francisco, 4th Feb 1864.

Dear Father,

I received [illegible] safely on the morning of the eighth. I would [illegible] time with the letter & the [illegible] but I wrote just before [illegible] & Alexander. I didn't write to them because I did [illegible] & I was weary till that we [illegible] would [illegible] Letter quicker than it would go [illegible] [illegible] & I [illegible] correct the [illegible] you. Address is: Care of Lt. Col. R. C. Drum [illegible] Pacific Department, San Francisco, California

We arrived [illegible] about sundown, the thirtieth of January [illegible] in the middle of the harbor and the wind was [illegible] eighteen. The harbor is a very fine one, built between [illegible] & [illegible]. It is sheltered by a French frigate that [illegible] the harbor, but ordinary merchantmen [illegible] & [illegible] with. Besides the United States [illegible] in the harbor. The vessel was [illegible] from the east, from the Sandwich Islands [illegible] the coast. The latter was about 40 feet [illegible] & [illegible] feet high & [illegible]. Some of the [illegible] & [illegible] & [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible]

[illegible] compact & light complexion [illegible], and [illegible] looking at them, and [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]. The native costume was very light, a pair of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] over the [illegible] with shirt and [illegible] of white cotton and a [illegible] brimmed hat. One [illegible] pumping the fresh water from a small boat into our [illegible] with a dozen other men, took off his [illegible] and tied [illegible] his waist. As they pumped they [illegible] [illegible] more gaiety than harmony. The hats of one or two [illegible] [illegible] were examined [illegible] by some [illegible] passengers. They were made of [illegible] with [illegible] flat brims and stuff like [illegible] the head. We left the harbor at half past one in the night [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] the [illegible]. [illegible] at Acapulco the amusement for which the place has been [illegible] [illegible] passengers. The vessel used to be surrounded by boys and girls swimming in the water, and they would dive after small pieces of silver [illegible] [illegible] to them by the passengers. This time either because it was [illegible] dark or because they had been frightened [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] the reason, not a diver was to be seen. Only one [illegible] jumped out of a canoe with his clothes on and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] his hat floating about alarmed some of our female passengers [illegible] [illegible]. Among the things they sold were [illegible] [illegible] but very [illegible] [illegible] of artificial flowers made of sea [illegible], [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible]. A [illegible] of parrots were bought by our passengers, adding to the large [illegible] of animals already on board. [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] had in quantity by way of [illegible], the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] an iguana, and an American tiger belonging to different officers [illegible] [illegible] of the crew. Our passengers were a horse, a dog, a canary [illegible] and a cockatoo.

We arrived [illegible] Tangomilla at noon on the first of February and remained there [illegible] hours and a half. The harbor is a fine one but not quite [illegible] [illegible]. The village is much smaller than Acapulco. We [illegible] [illegible] passengers [illegible] [illegible] freight here and took in some fifty passengers. Three of our passengers [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The wind & fresh and clear and we passed the [illegible] Islands. [illegible] in the Channel we [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

I have been this morning to walk at the Chinese temple which they
Chinese very handsome ornament in the Garden of
the Chinaman, and which is the most curious Object in Canton
Europe they would take an Entire Month. The Chinese
are very numerous here and very dexterous, indeed
the streets are thronged with people from morning, night
a much more lively appearance than Macao which is
packed from the population. The population is main
estimated at from 800,000 to 1,000,000. The streets are
and [illegible] the [illegible] very [illegible]
of [illegible] the [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

San Francisco 11 Feb. 1850

Dear Tambour;

Here I am, safely arrived on the eighth. I did not avail the accompanying letter at Acapulco, because I was [illegible] and thought you would not get down there if I mailed it. Since my arrival I have been waiting to learn my address, which is: Care of Colonel R. C. Drumm, Adjutant General Pacific Department, San Francisco.

We arrived at Acapulco at sun down on the [illegible] and [illegible] of part one in the night. We dropped anchor [illegible] of the [illegible] land locked harbor and took in coal and water from [illegible]. Land passengers were taken ashore by the natives in large [illegible]. Other natives surrounded our stern with their log canoes and [illegible] passengers fruit, eggs, and shells, corals and [illegible] ornaments, and parrots. The costumes of the natives were much like those at Panama; white cotton trousers, with white cotton shirt worn over them or rolled up and tied round the [illegible] a broad brimmed straw hat; and some of them had sandals [illegible] classic sandals. The natives were nearly all very dark, [illegible], some of them with a negro admixture of blood some with Spanish. The town was a small village of mostly wooden buildings with a fort [illegible] rising ground and the ruins of another fort on an overhanging mountain. The port was blockaded as far as [illegible] and the like reconcerned by the French Frigate, but the town is not yet taken, and a body of French troops were expected down to attack it again by water. The boys and girls [illegible] to amuse the California passengers by [illegible] and not appear for our benefit, probably because it was [illegible].

At [illegible] the first of February we [illegible] and [illegible] two hours and a half. The port is [illegible] and [illegible]. The village is [illegible] Acapulco [illegible] to Colima, a city of some fifty thousand inhabitants [illegible], in the neighborhood of the richest silver mines of Mexico.

After leaving Manzanilla we soon passed [illegible]

wreck of the Golden Gate Steamer. The next morning we found them with cooler and the water a little rougher as we were on the Gulf of California. The weather grew cooler daily until the morning of our [illegible] when we found it much warmer on land. The last two days we were in a thick fog, and the last night were in some anxiety but in the morning as we approached the land the fog disappeared and we found ourselves just before the harbor.

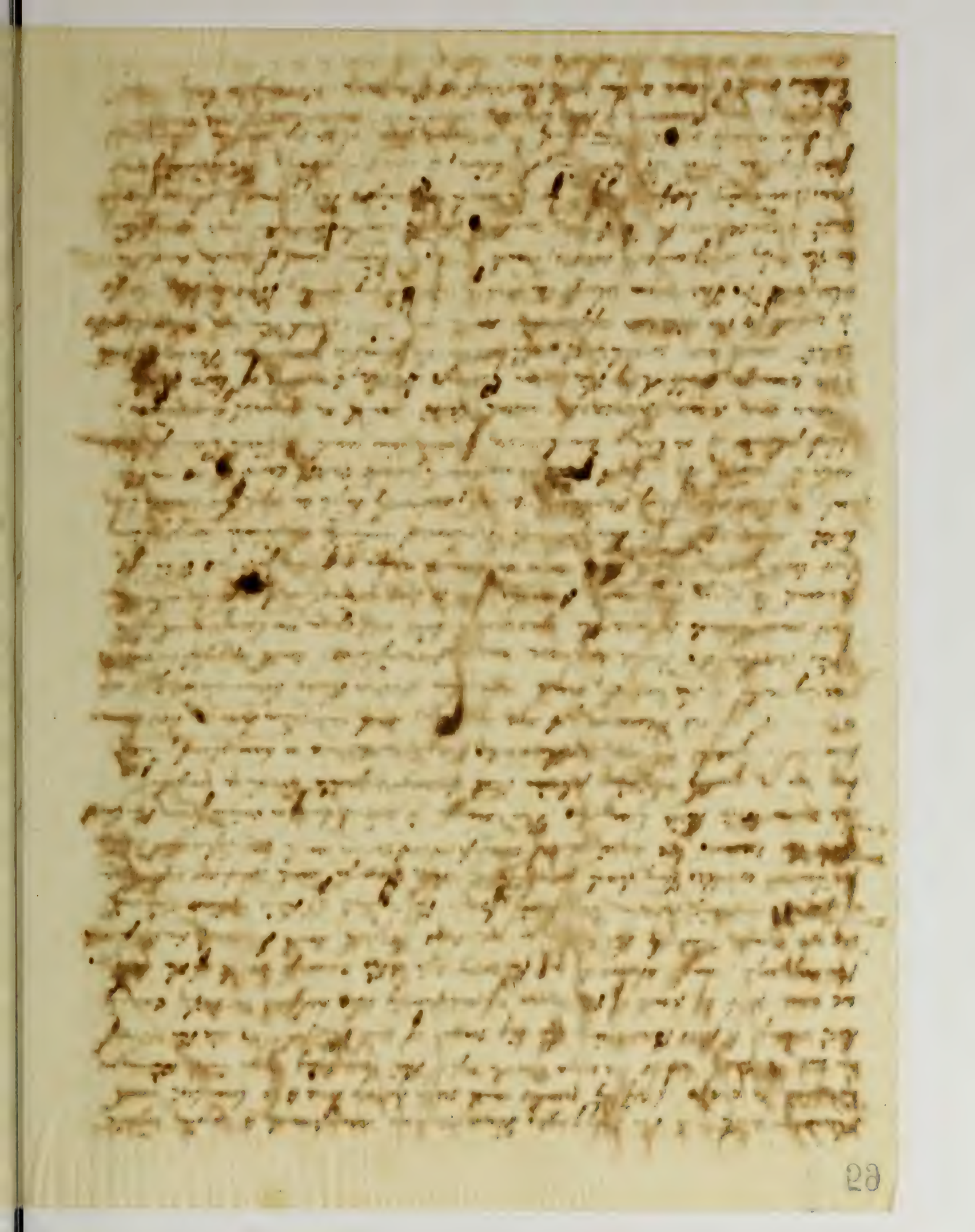
Since my arrival I have been walking about the town doing a few errands, and calling on a few friends. I am to stay here with Mr. Wyatt and two others of the party until tuesday from yesterday. The rest of the party went yesterday by steamer to Los Angeles, where we follow them by the next steamer.

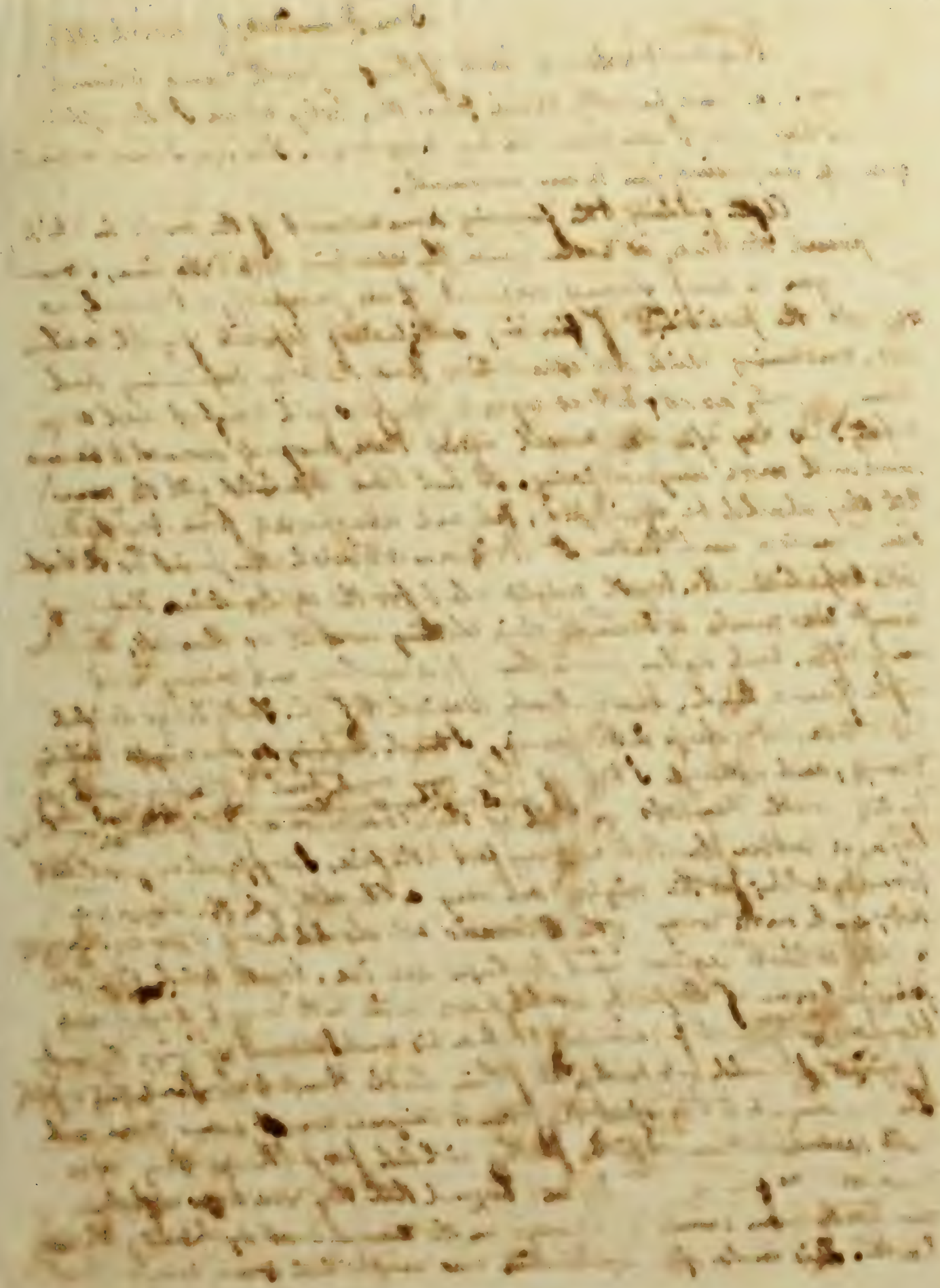
I have not yet called on Alice Jackson, but mean to today if I can find her address. I may go on an excursion out of town for four or five days with Mr. Wyatt.

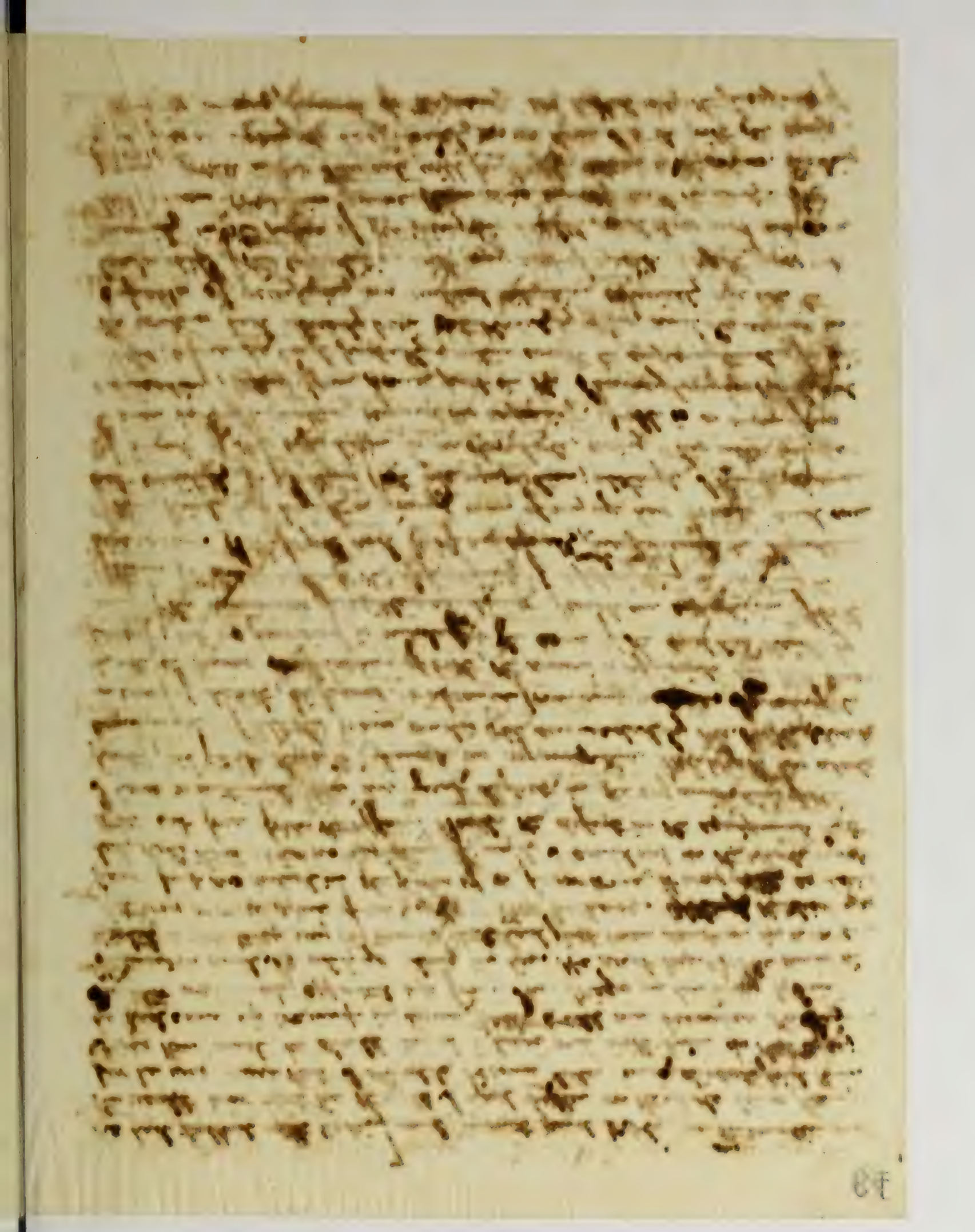
I am afraid of missing the mail and stop here. Give my love to your wife.

Very affectionately yours,

[illegible]







11

On my return from the excursion to Ilona and Almadan, I called on Mrs. Barber and Alice Jackson here. The former has been exceedingly hospitable to me, and I have seen them a number of times. I find Mr. Barber to be a very fine man, and his wife has made a great hit in the matrimonial way. He looks rather older than I expected him to out he seems to be of the kind that does not grow old in his feelings. He has been very kind to me in the way of giving me letters of introduction and he seems to know almost everybody in this country. I should think he was quite successful as a lawyer and much respected as such. His wife seems to have good health and the best of spirits. They seem very fond of each other. Alice Jackson's health is not so good as her sister, but has improved I believe since her departure from Boston. Her amiability and intelligence and cultivation please me more than ever, and if I staid here much longer, I should undoubtedly fall a victim to them. It is in great part for that very reason that I will not yield to the urgent advice of Mrs. Barber that I should remain here and practice my profession. The salaries are very good and the number of mining companies and extent of mining speculation is astounding. My friend Keyes, has the position of assayer to a mining company near Mazatlan in Mexico, and receives two hundred dollars a month for the first half year, after that four hundred dollars a month. He came away from Freiberg only three or four months after me.

I must stop here in order to complete my preparations for the journey. Although I have made no effort to find work here still if a good chance should present itself at Virginia City, or Denver or elsewhere, I should not feel justified in refusing it. I feel confident, however, that enough speculation is going on at home to ensure my finding work there.

Give my regards to your wife. By the way, I retributed on you by reading your last letter aloud at the Beabers, at the invitation of the ladies.

Very affectionately yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman

San Francisco, 19 March, 1864.

[illegible]

I enquired at the Occidental last evening [illegible] regard to Willing and his money. They told me that [illegible] a letter from him only yesterday morning [illegible] as to the money, and they had sent it to him by express, writing at the same time that Col. Drum had told them that you were already gone on your way to Arizona. Willing [illegible] from Arizona, and, it would appear, seemed to know nothing of your movements.

I found yesterday that my baggage had arrived, and I am going to set out this afternoon for Sacramento on my way home.

I hope that you or Mr. Eakins got a package at the Bella Union in Los Angeles containing a pair of scales for him. I did not send it by the stage to Wilmington, because I expected to see you again in Los Angeles, where I found that I should have to stay there until Monday morning.

I had abundant opportunity in this long delay at Los [illegible] streets and suburbs of that charming town [illegible] because. The country was very thinly [illegible] indeed and [illegible] very respect like that we [illegible] between San Juan and Wilmington. At San Juan

I was disappointed in my expectation of seeing Pitts, and so were my six fellow passengers; for I had made them expect a fight by telling them the story of our treatment of him. They promised to assist me. I was very careful, however, to make no inquiries about Pitts until just as we were leaving the town. I then asked the postmaster, young Breen, and he told me that Pitts had arrived home the day following, and had had to come on foot! He had been off on one or two expeditions since that. The stage driver told me Pitts was going shortly to Boise.

Banning is in town here, but I have not seen him. I learn, however, that you have started on the guard.

We have been having a good deal of rain here within two or three days past, and it seems to be not quite over yet.

I have met notice of your friends here except Col. Drum, and once, by chance, Mr. Merchant. I have seen Mr. Eakins's friend Mr. Tennent several times, and he inquired particularly after Mr. Eakins.

Give my regards to Mr. Eakins and Mr. Stewart and Mr. Noble, and believe me, with best wishes for your success

Your affectionate friend,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Sacramento 22 March 1[illegible]

To the Postmaster in charge of U.S. Express Office
during the Colonel's absence
[illegible]

Dear Sir

I happened to meet U.S. Express yesterday just as we were to be leaving town and he told me that a couple of letters for me were lying at his office. I asked him to forward them to me to Virginia City, Post Office, [illegible]; but for fear he may be [illegible] from home longer than he expected so that I may not wish to remain at Virginia City as long as I intended, I [illegible] you will forward me the letters there immediately and very greatly oblige

Yours respectfully,

Benj: Smith Lyman.

Virginia City, N.T.; 28 M[illegible], 1864.

C. Adolphe Low Esq.

San Francisco.

[illegible] dear Sir

I am very sorry to have a trouble you [illegible] little affairs and to beg you to forward me [illegible] convenient, a hundred dollars [illegible] return for the enclosed draft on my Uncle Edward. I find the expenses of my journey considerably greater than I anticipated, and am unwilling to forego the advantage in a professional point of view of [illegible] a few days here. Indeed, I find this country [illegible] than I expected to; and through the kindness [illegible] Wm Ashburner [illegible] assistant Geologist of the Calif[illegible] [illegible] is familiar with the geology and mining of this [illegible] [illegible] good opportunities of seeing what is to be [illegible] way here I spent a day at Sacramento, a day at [illegible] [illegible] day at [illegible] City, and arrived here only last [illegible] a cold [illegible] the Sierra in a snow storm [illegible] interest at [illegible], although I visited the legislature [illegible] and interested [illegible] what I saw at Grass Valley and Nevada, perhaps most of all in the hydraulic diggings.

I expect [illegible] here until at [illegible] the beginning of [illegible]. You can [illegible] simply at the Post Office here [illegible] the most convenient way of sending the money would be [illegible] Wells Fargo & Co. and I will be on the [illegible] also [illegible] communication from you at this office.

I remain my dear sir

Very respectfully yours,

[illegible]

$1000 **First** Virginia City, N.T. 28 March 186[illegible]

On demand please pay to C. Adolphe Low one hundred dollars United States gold coin (the second of same tenor and date unpaid) and charge the same to my account.

To E. H. R. Lyman Esq. New York.

R.S.E. [illegible]

Benj: Smith Lyman

$1000 **Second.** Virginia City, N.T. 28 [illegible]

On demand please pay to C. Adolphe Low one hundred dollars United States gold coin (the first of same tenor and date unpaid) and charge the same to my account.

To E. H. R. Lyman Esq. New York.

[illegible]

Benj: Smith Lyman.

a little by stealth. I thought over the matter, however, and [illegible] with the air of speaking of nothing of consequence, I told him that I was willing to adopt such an expedient to evade the duty upon [illegible] if I was discovered; for I told him I thought it right that if any one should become answerable for the fulfilment of the contract, that person should suffer, and that I was prepared to pay the duty rather than a contraband trader should be detected in the act of smuggling for my sake. I should be unable or unwilling to pay the necessary [illegible] of the high price I should be charged, and I should be [illegible] upon all that my cargo would cost me. They would be worth nothing; I feared he would discharge me without wages, and I should not regret the loss. If, on the other hand, I should not succeed in my attempt, and my cargo should be seized by the officers of the Custom House, I should not demand as a right that he should pay me for my time, but only for my actual expenses, and the value of any [illegible] I might lose. I myself supplied the transportation, a reasonable amount of luggage, all things. He made no objection to my proposal. I told him I would go on board in a boat, by myself, if he would call for me at night, the appearance of coming openly alongside the Custom House. I should only take on board my hammock and a little bag containing a few articles of clothing, which I could give out, the case remaining empty. I [illegible] of letters in their original envelopes by [illegible] to [illegible] five thousand pounds was kept by [illegible] Him. This I would not do. My employer objected to [illegible] with him, and I was willing to do so. He said nothing as I thought [illegible] to many cigars. [illegible] I [illegible] The principal [illegible], for example, the [illegible] three and the ship [illegible] Harbour, [illegible] we were only taking [illegible] We should have set forth [illegible] and which [illegible] would bring about three hundred [illegible] a week, [illegible] these would vary from one [illegible] of tobacco to another [illegible] and some other [illegible] were taken along, whose [illegible] with the vessel would be useless; so that the smuggler would [illegible] [illegible] The thing was of a piece with the [illegible] [illegible] village talking [illegible] with [illegible], [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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Stewart came into the tent pressently, and in effect congratulated me on my going home; for he had no fancy for the discomforts of the expedition, although he had not yet [illegible] in the most remote degree to [illegible]. Both he and Wyeth were very friendly in their manners towards me. Wyeth had decided in the matter and told me of it quickly because the steamer was [illegible] by [illegible] up from San Diego on her way to San Francisco. So I got everything ready for going home immediately. The steamer came along, but Noble had not got back with my trunk. He brought about six o'clock Noble came. The wagon with my trunk had been lighter loaded than the rest, had gone therefore a different road from them, and had consequently been missed by Noble. He had [illegible] however by the other wagons to have the trunk unloaded & sent back from Los Angeles, where all the wagons were going to stay until Sunday. The question now arose, shall we drive to the old San Pedro Landing five miles, and catch the steamer from there as both other passengers were going to do, or go overland by stage to San Francisco. The [illegible] being the same I decided to go overland although so much less comfortable, in order to see the country. I [illegible] afterwards found that those passengers who tried to catch the steamer from old San Pedro failed, for she sailed right away from them, and even [illegible] came in the stage with me to San Francisco. Early the next morning, I left Wilmington in the stage for Los Angeles after bidding Wyeth, Stewart, Noble, Sabine, and the [illegible] good [illegible] and [illegible] with all in the most friendly [illegible] their [illegible], many of them sending messages by me to friends and relatives. This was Friday morning, on reaching Los Angeles I found that the overland stage to San Francisco would not go until Sunday morning before daylight. So I had two days and a half to see the beauties and ugliness of the town, visit the vineyards and orange and almond groves, read a part of Hittell's "Resources of California", that I found at a book auction there, and to meditate on my blank of plans. I now began to think that I had deserted Wyeth in a most unfriendly manner, although I had taken quite a liking to him; and [illegible] in the [illegible] and a prospecting expedition, without geologist, miner or surveyor, when I ought to have insisted upon his keeping me with him. I was really [illegible] to this effect, [illegible] expected to see him again in Los Angeles, [illegible] [illegible] long. He [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] about [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] before it was [illegible] for me to go. I would not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the reputation of [illegible] "[illegible]" among those who had [illegible] of every connection with the expedition.

My friend with the instrument was quite willing that I should take in the stage, as I had offered it cheerfully at first. My other friend was so heavy an extra one hundred dollars extra; as little baggage is allowed on these overland lines. I reached San Francisco after a fatiguing journey on Thursday evening the 7th of March. My baggage arrived by steamer the following Thursday and on possession of it the next day. I think on Saturday I got early aboard the Sacramento boat that afternoon, and had nine o'clock till the morning I must do and to them necessary calls &c. and found it impossible quite that day; so I had to wait until Monday. That day on the way to the I met Col. Brown, and he told me that there were two letters for me at the office and I took a great mind to go back for them, and very likely would have done so, but I not foreseen the necessity in time of finding some of my friends good a distance as I did them. As it was, I arrived in the quietest imaginable & comfortable until I arrived here, and found one of them from Watson, and one from Lee saying that they had expected my friend from there. On my way here I spent a day at Sacramento & saw the town and the Legislature, and two days at Grass Valley and Nevada city, saw the gold mining. I crossed the Sierra Nevada by the Donner Pass at midnight in a driving snow storm, and arrived here at half past [illegible] afternoon, still in a [illegible] snow storm. This is the principal mining [illegible] Region and of the world. It is 6200 feet above the sea, and the [illegible] was cold and disagreeable most of the time we, although it had been mild throughout the winter. The country which I saw is mountainous by four thousand & odd feet broken and forbidding looking. Not [illegible] evidently never intended by [illegible] for the habitation of man. Hell, Avignon, and other worse.

I have hopes that my suggestion that I should return overland to the East. I could ship all my baggage to New York by express. I found on arriving here that I should have to [illegible] money for the journey, and have written to [illegible] for some. I have already seen pretty much all I wish to here and am waiting impatiently for the money. Very likely I should not go until next Tuesday, a good day for finding a place in the stage. At Salt Lake I shall stay a day or two. At Denver City a few days; at St. Louis, I think a day or two, to see Shelly, Hannah & Philander. But I shall probably write to some of you about the time before that.

The Avignon party probably started from Wilmington on the Thursday after I left there. Col. Brown told me on I left that I might expect that he had had a letter from Pierce dated on the Yadkin River, that is still about eighteen months behind me.

My visit here is made very agreeable and my opportunities of seeing the mining life much increased by the kindness of Wm. Ashburner, the superintendent of the Uncle Sam mine, one of the best of this neighborhood. I found him to be a very clever gentlemanly fine man, and am staying at his house. His wife is in San Francisco.

I am going to send this first to Mrs. Lesley that my writing may be of use to all and partly to make up for the [illegible] letter. I mean to send you a [illegible] and partly to make up for the [illegible] letter.

Yours affectionately,
Your Brother
Benj. Smith Lyman

Virginia City, Nevada Territory, 2 April, 1864.

My dear Mr. Lesley;

While writing the enclosed lengthy account of why I happen to be already on my own home, it occurred to me that I should wish to tell you the same story quite as much in full. So I send it to you first with the request that you will forward it to Mary [illegible] a little delay as convenient. You may show it to Joe Ho, and he might show it even to Col. Scott, if the Colonel should happen to desire a fuller account of the matter than he has already from Boyett; but it was not written at all with the expectation of Scott's seeing it, that is one of the thoughts that will easily understand my reluctance to undergo unnecessary discomforts, when our profession provides us with so many in the most favorable circumstances. If I ever desired to experience hardships from the love of adventure, I have nearly or quite lost [illegible] a compensation for the necessary discomforts and hardships of the campaign I looked to my geological explorations in a new field; but it is clear that as much or more profit in every respect will be come to me and to the world by the practice of my profession in comparatively older fields. As to my ability and willingness to endure necessary privations your opinion (already highly favorable, I believe) will not probably be changed by this affair, although I make no doubt that that of my employers and of their friends is.

I hope you received promptly and understood the telegram I sent you a fortnight ago from San Francisco. I sent it thinking that you had perhaps been obliged to defer a little the Nova Scotia work that I bequeathed to your care, and that I might help it on by hastening home; so that possibly there might be other work that I could get by going straight home. Besides, I thought you would bear in mind from the time of receiving the telegram, the fact that I was coming soon, and might perhaps, keep for me some job that you could not do yourself. I have all along feared very much that this Nova Scotia work would be a great bother to you, and that I had made very insufficient provision for repaying you for your trouble. Now, I hope to be able to make up some any deficiency in this respect.

I shall probably be at Oswego City when you receive this, and if you should happen to know of any reconnaissance wanted there, I should be happy to make it, and you can telegraph me about it at my expense. I have reconnoitring instruments with me. I could undoubtedly receive a letter from you at Atchison, Kansas;

and with still greater certainty at St. Louis, where I expect to stay a day or two. If there should be any good job for me down in Nova Scotia, I shall probably get home quite soon enough to accept it. It seems as if Archibald at Cow Bay must have a survey of his leases. Marshall Bouvinot talked of getting geological work done; but I fear he will think I hardly treated him fairly about a reconnaissance he ordered and I accepted, that I was prevented from executing by the coming on of winter and of this Aroyne scheme. On my arrival in Philadelphia I was not even able to give him an opinion that I had held out to him hopes of. I think I will write to Hendry that I am in the market again.

I long to see you and hear your account of your European experience and observations. I hope you are by this time quietly and comfortably settled down to housekeeping again with Aunt Susan and the Children. Give them my best love.

It is possible Mary is still in New York or Brooklyn. If you should happen to know her whereabouts, please send the enclosed letter directly to her. Otherwise please send it in an envelope to Father so that he will open it before forwarding it.

Very affectionately yours,

Benj: Smith Lyman.

[illegible] City N.Y.; 4 April 1864.

[illegible] Law Esq.
San Francisco.

My dear Sir;

Your favor of the thirty first set its enclosed certificate of deposit [illegible] hundred dollars has come safely to hand, and the certificate has been cashed here without any difficulty. I thank you very much for the trouble you have taken in the matter.

I am going to set out tomorrow for the East. The backwardness and snowiness of the season are unfavorable, but the stages for that very reason [illegible] be less crowded. I shall take with me special provisions [illegible] and cold, and expect to get through quite comfortably [illegible]

Very respectfully yours
Benj: Smith Lyman.

Virginia City, N. T., 14 April 1864.

Dear Mary:

I wrote you a long letter a couple of days ago explaining how I happen to be so soon on my way home; but concluded to send it first to Mr. Lesley to save the trouble of rewriting the most of it for his benefit, and you will probably receive it almost as soon as this.

Mr. Wards marriage was advertised in the San Francisco papers. He is an acquaintance of Mr. Adolphe Lowe and of Wm. Parkhurst and both speak of him in very high terms. He must be quite an agreeable man and one of good principles. I hope by the way you will meet in New York or Brooklyn with a brother of Adolphe Lowe's George Lowe who sailed for New York from San Francisco some three weeks ago. I saw but little of him, but found him quite an agreeable man.

While in San Francisco I saw a good deal of Mr. and Mrs. Barber and Miss Alice Jackson. Mr. Barber proves to be a very nice man. His wife seems to have improved by marrying. They are very hospitable. I found Miss Jackson more agreeable than ever.

I was going to write you a little lecture on account of your disparaging remarks about giving girls "a little smattering of everything" in their education, for I consider a general culture the first and best thing to be aimed at, and that is easy with that to acquire any more special training that may be desired; but I refrain, since I perhaps misapprehend your drift.

I set out tomorrow by overland stage for the east. The weather here is snowy and cold; the hills about the town are white with a thin layer of snow, the streets are full of deep mud and slush and water. The real winter seems to be at its height just now, unlucky for me, although it has been a warm, dry season until the last week or two. I expect to have a cold, heavy ride in the stage, but shall take with special provisions against cold and hunger. The refreshments on the road are very poor it is said. I shall wear two or three suits of clothes as I did in Nova Scotia staging, and save thereby extra baggage fees!

Give my love to all,

Your affectionate Brother,
Benj. Smith Lyman.

Virginia City, N. T., 4 April 1864.

Wm. Barber Esq.

San Francisco.

My dear Sir;

I came after all very near accepting yourself's invitation to dine with you the day I left San Francisco. On my way to the steam boat I happened to meet Col. Drum to whose care my letters were addressed and he told me that there were two letters for me at his office. The office was already closed for that day; and I was so curious and impatient about the letters that I am really afraid it was the name of the thing more than any thing else that prevented me from staying another day and bidding you good bye a third time.

I was not influenced at all by the fact of having secured a state room on the boat for I had not been so prudent as to do that; and the only berth I could get on starting was so poor that I preferred to sleep on a lounge in the cabin until the boat arrived at Sacramento at two o'clock, and left my berth vacant. Then I went to a hotel and slept comfortably till morning. I walked assiduously up and down and back and forth through the streets of Sacramento in the vain hope of finding something worth stopping to gaze at. About noon I went to the [illegible] House, or Capitol as the natives prefer to call it, and witnessed for a couple of hours the proceedings of the legislature. They were interesting enough, but I had never seen so much of any other legislature, and so could not make any comparisons. Business seemed to be dispatched rapidly and apparently with fairness.

I secured my passage to this place over the Henness Pass Road by the Pacific Stage Line, which proved to be the opposition line. I don't much like monopolies and dislike to see a regular line crush out all competition by its superior power; but as far as my own comfort is concerned I commonly regret having patronized an opposition line, and [illegible] all a regular line at the time an opposition line is [illegible]. [illegible], this line seemed the more powerful and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

it stopped at opposition hotels which are apt to be second rations in villages, where one good hotel is the most to be expected. I went in the afternoon by the cars to Auburn Station, and found on arriving there that it was six or seven miles from the town of Auburn, and that the "excellent hotel near the railroad" was a very ordinary one. Still, I slept there comfortably enough and was able to lie abed a little later than I could have done at Sacramento. I also saw in that neighborhood for the first time how the beds and banks of the streams have been dug over in placer diggings. A few however are now in operation there, either for lack of water or because the rich spots are exhausted. Here and there however a band of Chinese men is at work. On the way to Grass Valley I liked the varied surface of the country and the abundance of trees better than any other part of California I had seen; but perhaps farmers would not agree with me, for I saw the ground was stony, although it seemed rich enough compared with arable land in the east. Of course, I was greatly struck by the number of the ditches and flumes and thirsty tent. I had by good luck a seat on the outside with the driver and another passenger and could see the country well; and could also hear the character of each horse thoroughly discussed, and hear some good stories illustrating the sharpness of the Chinese in business matters altogether superior in the opinion of my companions to that of white men, accompanied by a superior education and greater quickness in figures.

I stopped at Grass Valley to spend a day and see something of the mines and quartz mills in the neighborhood. At one of the mills I made the acquaintance of a very intelligent, lively, middle aged Belgian, who was tending a machine that required little brains. He became at last almost confidential to me; told me in a good hammed way that he should come into possession of $50,000 when his father should "take it into his head to depart;" a large fortune, I thought, for the old country; yes, said he, his father was a millionaire; he himself had been a wild boy and had run away; now he was wishing to scrape together some ready money so as to make his father a visit. He had, or he and his wife together, ten thousand dollars in real estate in that neighborhood, including one mill site that he hoped in the commencement of our acquaintance to sell me;

His present wife was his second; she was a German; his [illegible] had a French lady; and the third, he added, should be a Russ[illegible] [illegible] extolled in the most serious and [illegible] wife, and gave a charming little picture of how they in reading and talking after the day's work was a prudent woman and had [illegible] was well educated and could [illegible] language [illegible] one fine son of six years old who could read any his [illegible] the like. I was urged to come and see them the next [illegible] to call on them" when I came back from Virginia City.

The day after my arrival at Sears Bully the [illegible] ably early, an hour before its time, and left [illegible] So I went on to Nevada City, three or four miles, [illegible] day there. I not only saw Sneath & Clay's mill there, [illegible] but saw for the first time hydraulic diggings. Both at the [illegible] at the diggings I saw white men doing at high wages what [illegible] it seemed to me, would have done equally well at [illegible] was once more on the stage that afternoon alongside [illegible] who had two days before so galloudly praised the [illegible] of the Chinese, I ventured to express my opinion on this point. He [illegible] with the utmost disgust that a man who would employ Chinese deserving while in the body of the worst possible mutilation, [illegible] when out of the body of eternal punishment. There's logic & [illegible] This same driver was perhaps the most profane of any I saw in California, and that is saying a good deal. In his disgust at his pair of leaders he exclaimed: "They are no more fit to be [illegible] than [illegible] to be a preacher!" I had taken passage in this [illegible] line hopes of lying over at night so as to cross the mountains [illegible] but the line had recently changed its schedule and we [illegible] in the night. It snowed [illegible] the night and was very dark the moon rose. Soon [illegible] at the High Flume (128 feet high only partially visible in the [illegible]) the regular line stage passed us [illegible] kept on a little [illegible] rest of the night. At supper time I [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible], and remained [illegible]

with the driver all night, rather than be shut up tight with eleven others inside. This, the second driver was surprised and quite pleased at my standing it, for he apparently suffered more than I from cold. At length we had breakfasted, and got down from the mountains out of the snow on to the plain by the Truckee River. I quickly came to the opinion that has so far only been strengthened, that this territory was never intended by God for the habitation of man. It is the picture of bleakness, barrenness and desolation. On the other side of the mountains they had talked of our getting in here at nine or ten o'clock in the morning, but we actually arrived at half past three and I found that to be the ordinary time of arrival. I rushed to the post office to get my two letters, and found one to be from Mother and the other from Los Angeles about the baggage I had already received.

On my arrival the first snow storm of the season was at its height and the place was more forbidding than ever. I got a dark room at the International Hotel, which seemed from B Street to be down cellar, although from C Street it was upstairs. The next day, Sunday, I delivered your letter to Mr. Strong, but he was sick, and I could not see him. His subordinates however have treated me very politely and given me passes to visit the mines and mill. I succeeded so on too, in finding that hereabouts of Wm. Ashburner, and through him got admittance to the Savage Mine. He rode with me too one day to the Mexican Mill, twelve miles, and we had a pleasant visit there. The side was rather severe upon me, since it was my first for six years, and I had never been accustomed to so much cantering on a stretch nor to a livery stable mustang, nor in fact been much of a rider at all. Ashburner has also given me a good deal of information about this region and California. He thinks I made a lucky escape in leaving the Arizona expedition. I have been lodging since the first couple of days at his lodging house and taking my meals at his restaurant.

Who should I fall in with here today but Mr. Cannon, the butcher, who so substantially befriended me on my way up from Los Angeles. He is here on a visit of business. The young lady who was travelling with him came on here directly at that time and has been married here a fortnight.

I have been waiting two or three days for more money, have got it today, and am going to set out tomorrow for the East. If you are not already frightened by the length of this communication, you may hope to hear from me again on my arrival at the East, according to my promise.

Remember me kindly to your wife and her sister, and believe me very truly yours, Benj: Smith Lyman.

Philadelphia. 8 May, 1864.

Dear Mother;

I arrived yesterday safe and sound, apparently almost contrary to the expectations of some of my friends, who seemed to have given me up. I was surprised to find that my letter to Mary had not yet come to hand; but the mails on the plains have been very irregular of late. I set out from Virginia in the Washoe Region, the fifth of April and reached Salt Lake City on the eleventh; lay over one day there and reached Denver on the nineteenth. Denver is sixty miles off the direct line. From Denver I went up to the mountains, forty miles westward, and something of the mining, spent one night there in visiting the mines and mills and returned on foot to Denver. This excursion to Denver and the mountains delayed me five days, rather longer than I had expected. I left Denver on the twenty fourth and reached Atchison on the evening of the twentieth. The journey so far from Virginia was by stage, night and day. I sat otherwise I was allowed to, that is almost all the time, on the outside with the driver, in order to see as much as possible of the country, and to save myself from being stifled inside; and I became quite an expert in sleeping on the boys. From Atchison I went to St. Joseph's the same night, Saturday, but had to remain there until two o'clock Monday morning. Then I set out for the East by the Hannibal & St. Joseph Rail Road, but that road is so laughably shiftless in its running that we missed our connection

Quincy by several hours. I see Josiah Hunt is superintendent of the road he must have degenerated. The consequence was I had to stay over night at Quincy. From there I came directly here by way of Springfield, Fort Wayne and Pittsburg, with a few hours delay in the night at Fort Wayne.

I am pleased to find the Lesley's pretty well. They are at the Antrim, and I asked for a place there, but found the house full. I have not found no permanent abiding place and spent the night at the Ashland House, but am not going to stay there.

Marshall Bowman of Cape Breton telegraphed yesterday from New York to know if I had returned and if I or Mr. Lesley would visit Cape Breton. The reply was that I had just come but would require large inducements to go down there because there was no demand for geological work here. Mr. Lesley is overrun with orders, and says he is glad to have me come and help him execute them. I shall have a week or two's work to finish up my last year's Cape Breton work.

I am a little lame just now from a sore ankle caused by the chafing of my boot in my walking at [illegible], and inability to take care of it on the journey home.

I am sorry to hear that Mary is suffering from dyspepsia. Exercise! Exercise!

Give my love to all

Your affectionate son,

Benj: Smith Lyman

Address: Care of Prof. J. P. Lesley
Box 17 [illegible] Delphia

Philadelphia; 6 May, 1864.

Dear Sanborn;

I arrived here safely yesterday, after a long and fatiguing journey overland.

I set out from San Francisco on the twenty first of March, and reached Sacramento the same night by boat. I stand there the greater [illegible] of one day [illegible] that there was little or nothing worth seeing in the [illegible] or in the Legislature. Then I went in the afternoon by cars to Auburn, some two hours ride. From [illegible] I set out in the stage the [illegible] along the Henness Pass road. I reached Grass Valley in [illegible] and lay over until next day to see something of the gold [illegible]. Thence I went to Nevada City [illegible] there in visiting the quartz mills and [illegible] I [illegible] across the Sierra Nevada in the [illegible] snow storm and reached Virginia City, the principal [illegible] (some 8 or 10000 inhabitants) of the Washoe Region. There I [illegible] first part of the time [illegible] visiting the mines and mills, [illegible] days in waiting for more money from San Francisco. While there I [illegible] the daily pleasure of Wm. Ashburner's society, an old acquaintance and [illegible] of mine, of Stockbridge, Mass., lately assistant of the [illegible] State Geological Survey, now Superintendent of the Uncle Sam [illegible] best in Washoe. I found him very agreeable, and he could give me much [illegible] information in regard to Washoe, California and the other gold and [illegible] part of the world. He thought I had [illegible] I set out by stage again from Virginia on the fifth [illegible] April and by uninterrupted traveling reached [illegible] City on the Eleventh. Then I tarried one day, to see the place, the people and the lake, and with regret that I could not get more thoroughly acquainted with the people, I then continued the journey by stage. The regret, however, was somewhat lessened when I had traveled until the nineteenth in the same stage, with [illegible] of the leading [illegible]. On the nineteenth I reached Denver, some [illegible] south of the main line. Thence after waiting a day for a chance

[illegible] in the stage to Central City in the mountains, near forty miles west of Denver, in order to see something of the mining and quartz crushing. I [illegible], to visit the Middle Park about which I had had dreams [illegible] a good many years, but found that it would require a thirty miles walk and back and part of the way on snow shoes, so I gave it up. I saw in the course of one evening what I [illegible] at Central City, went into one mine, & into several mills; and set out for Denver on foot, the morning after my arrival. I went on foot to make up for having lost in the stage the sight of some charming picturesque scenery, as well as chances for geological observations on the way up. Also I saved by the walk four or five dollars which might save me, having to wait in St. [illegible] elsewhere for money to be sent to me. [illegible] probably have got a [illegible]. I started it began to snow, and the day turned [illegible] and I was forced to stop for the night [illegible] short of Denver. The trip gave me a [illegible] from the chafing of my boot, and my inability to [illegible] proper [illegible] that was [illegible] has produced by this time quite a disagreeable one that forces me to go home. I set out by stage from Denver on the [illegible] last Saturday night, the [illegible] to St. Joseph, but there I had to lie [illegible] morning. The running of the Hannibal & St. Joseph Rail Road is ridiculously shiftless and we missed one connection [illegible] Quincy by several hours & had to lie there over night. [illegible] came here by Springfield, Fort Wayne & Pittsburg.

Mr. Lesley has an abundance of geological orders on hand and seems glad to have me come and help him execute them. A Cape Breton man telegraphed yesterday from New York to know if I would go to Cape Breton, but the [illegible] it would require big inducements, the demand here for such [illegible] so great. I shall need a week or two to finish up my last year's Cape Breton [illegible]

I long to hear from you, it is so very long since I have. Give my regards to your wife, & believe me very affectionately yours.

Address: Care of Prof. J. P. [illegible]
Box [illegible]
Philadelphia

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Rio de Janeiro, 6 Aug. 1861.

[illegible]

Philadelphia; 6 May, 1864

Robert Bell Esq.
Newfd (for Cow Bay)

My dear Sir;

I arrived here yesterday on my return overland from California; and regret to find that your map is not yet quite done. Mr. Lesley has been keeping it for a few finishing touches from my own hand, and it shall receive them as soon as possible and be forwarded to you within a few days.

I must thank you again for the letter you were so kind as to give me to Mr. Randall. I succeeded in discovering his address only at the last minute, and regretted it because I found him a agreeable a gentleman as I knew.

On my way home I spent two or three weeks in hastily visiting the California Gold Region, Washoe, Salt Lake and the Pike's Peak Region, and have had on the whole an interesting although fatiguing journey.

I suppose you are still at Cow Bay, perhaps by this time settled in your new house. I should like very much to make you a visit there; but there is such demand for geological work in these parts, that I shall not probably visit Cape Breton this year.

Very truly yours,
Benj: Smith Lyman.

Address: Box 1776 Post Office
Philadelphia

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Philadelphia: 6 May 1884

Robert Bellows Esq.
New York (or Cambridge)

My dear Sir:

I arrived here yesterday on my return overland from California; and regret to find that your [illegible] is not yet quite done. Mr. [illegible] has been keeping it for a few finishing touches from my own hand, and it shall receive them as soon as possible, and be forwarded to you within a few days.

I must thank you again for the letter you were so kind as to give me to Mr. Randall. I succeeded in discovering his address only at the last minute, and regretted it because Mr. [illegible] has appeared a gentleman [illegible].

As my way home I spent two or three weeks in [illegible] in California [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] and the [illegible] region, and have had on the whole an interesting [illegible] journey.

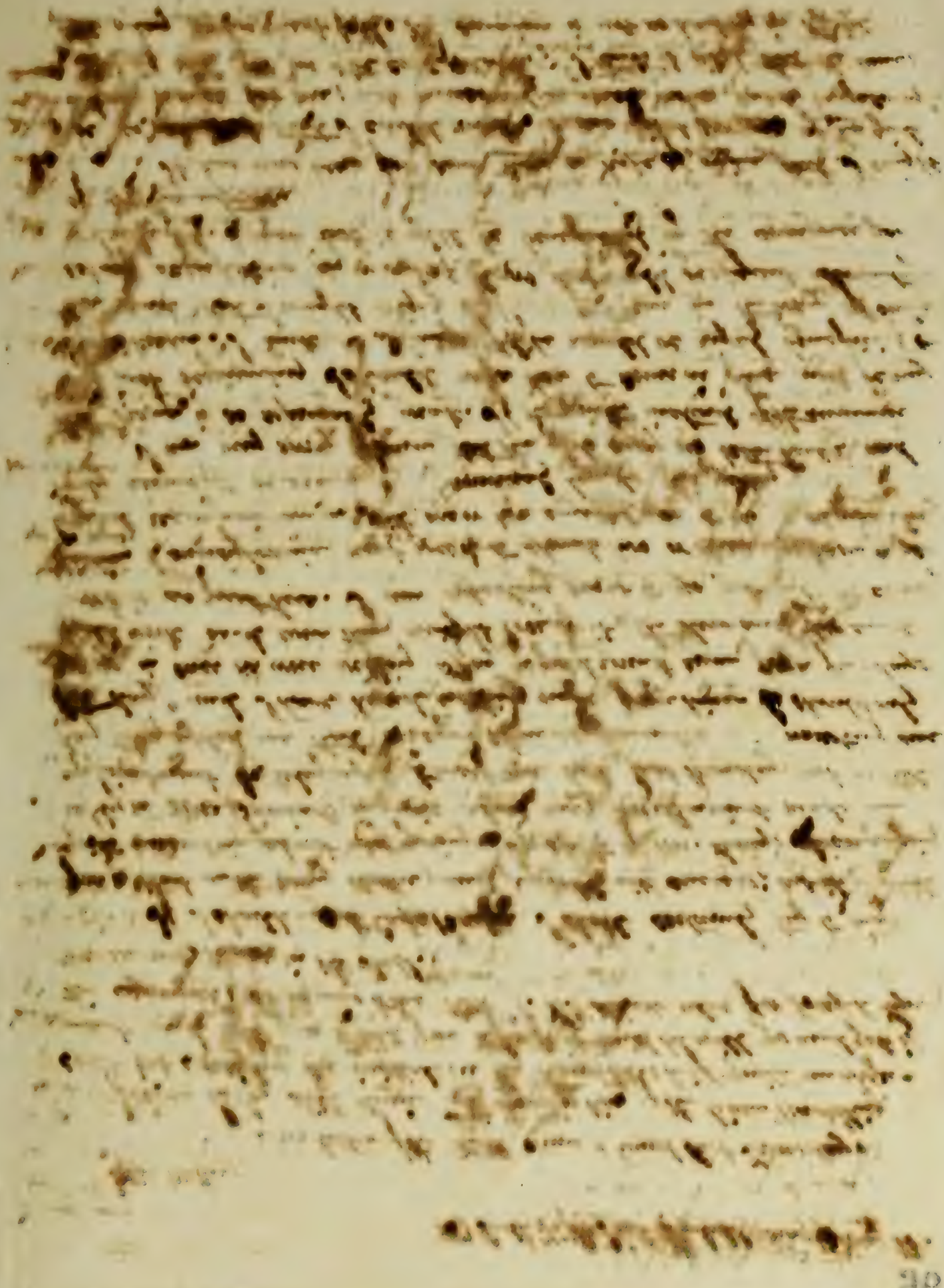
I suppose you are still at Cambridge, [illegible] this [illegible] in your [illegible]. I should like very much to make you a [illegible] [illegible], but [illegible] is [illegible] for [illegible] work in [illegible], that I shall not probably visit Cape Breton this year.

Very truly yours,
[illegible]

Address: [illegible]
Philadelphia

[illegible]

March 1864. Passage from Wilmington to S. Francisco $25 gold			March 1864 Cash received of J. Wyeth - $25,00 gold		
20 March 1864. Passage from S. Francisco to N.Y. by [illegible]	$266,00 gold		[illegible]		$400,00
Extra baggage	25,70		Solar Compass (aboriginal cost)		200,00
	291,70	1,00 $466,72			600,00
30 March 1864. 3 months salary [illegible]		750,00	Balance due		616,72
		1216,72			1216,72



Philadelphia; 16 May, 1864.

Dear Mother;

Sanborn writes me that his wife is going to the watercure at Northampton (Dr. Trunk. I suppose) to spend a couple of months there. She is I assure you a very fine woman and I hope you and the girls will take a liking to her. At any rate, I shall consider any attention you can show her as a personal favor to me, and shall feel very grateful. I am sorry that there is no prospect of my being in Northampton myself about that time, so that I can do nothing to help make her visit agreeable.

Sanborn also writes that my Commonwealth has been sent to Northampton since newscame of my intention to return. If you still have them or if they should still be lying at the Post-Office I should be glad to have them forwarded by mail.

I should also be glad to have the French periodical that you say has arrived forwarded to me here by mail.

You would better address me still in Mr. Lasley's care, until I am actually settled in my new quarters.

Love to all

Your affectionate Son

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Philadelphia 6 May 84.

Dr. Chas. F. Wolf

Sir

Dear

Your daughter in San Francisco did me the favor
to request from me [illegible] and a few days
ago I received [illegible] which I have [illegible] from California
and should [illegible] yesterday or today, and was surprised
to learn from them that you had been quite ill. I do hope
you are well again, and that [illegible] from visiting Boston as
you had [illegible] to do. I am still in California. I have been writing
[illegible] by Mr. [illegible] by Mr. Sherwood Eggleston. She expects
to publish [illegible] a couple of months and I am being
employed.

I am sorry [illegible] cannot see you and talk your
[illegible] over. I am down here and [illegible] am in the
[illegible] Dr. Weir's [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] and always [illegible] [illegible] at Boston. I [illegible] a great deal of what pleasure I found
in [illegible] [illegible] and I was visited with the most friendly hos-
pitality at Mrs. [illegible], and [illegible]. Burgess was kind enough to
[illegible] [illegible] in the [illegible] and I [illegible] [illegible]. He
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
and [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Philadelphia, 16 May, 1864.

Mr. L. J. Bellini Jr.
New York.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the ninth instant (not marked fourteenth) is at hand.

I have found much more work done on the map than I expected and having expect to finish it before the end of this week.

I shall not be able to visit New York for the present. I shall be very happy to see you, if you come to Philadelphia and you will find me here any day until next Sunday inclusive at No. 137 South Fifth Street, second story back room. After that I shall be gone into the mountains for a few days possibly for as much as three weeks.

I remain

Very respectfully yours.

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Philadelphia, [illegible]

Dear [illegible]

[illegible] here in Pennsylvania [illegible] I undertake for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

almost undoubtedly will force me to stay here until Sunday night. Then I must stay Monday in New York and get to Boston Tuesday morning so as to be able to do some business there before sailing. This will prevent me from spending even one night at Northampton. There is a bare possibility that I may get away from here Saturday night, do my business in New York on Sunday, reach Northampton Monday morning or afternoon, and get to Boston Tuesday noon; but the chances of being able to carry out that programme are so slight that I do not reckoning on it. I have still to [illegible] do in Belleville [illegible] Report.

I wonder how [illegible] I should be happy to pay [illegible] [illegible] will me [illegible] [illegible] likely find [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

I expect to spend Tuesday night [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Philadelphia, 19 May, 1834.

My dear Uncle.

I thank you very much for the kind message you sent me the other day in your letter to Aunt Susan. When I received them I little thought that I should be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] your invitation to pay you a visit [illegible] Plain. But I agreed yesterday to make a survey [illegible] [illegible], in Cape Breton, and I am to sail [illegible] for Halifax next Wednesday. So I hope to have the pleasure of passing next Tuesday night at your house. I shall probably leave here Sunday evening, pass Sunday in Northfield and reach Boston Tuesday morning. I shall have business in Boston during the day and then [illegible] [illegible] out to your place in the afternoon. If I am possibly finished some work I have to do here in time I shall start a day earlier and pass Monday night at Northampton, but it is not at all likely that I shall be able to do so.

Give my best love to your wife and to Miss Clap and the girls if they are at home. I am sorry that I shall have no chance to see the girls.

Hoping then to see you soon, I am as ever,

Your affectionate [illegible]

[illegible]

Philadelphia; 20 May. 1864.

Dear Mother:

Your letter of the eighteenth with the accompanying pamphlets arrived in the city yesterday, but reached me only today. I write to repeat my invitation to Mary to go down with me to Cape Breton; for don't you think the change, the new sights and the sea air would do her good. Of course you can tell better about that than I. She can have comfortable quarters at Sydney, and could perhaps visit me at Cow Bay. For an easement, besides those I mentioned, she could mend my clothes. If she will go, I will gladly pay her expenses, as I said, and she can meet me at Uncle Joseph's next Tuesday, or if more convenient to her at the Henshaws' in Boston. I shall not be able to go to Northampton on my way to Boston, much to my regret. I hope this will not reach you too late for Mary to make up her mind favorably.

Give my love to all.

Very affectionately yours

Benj [illegible]

for anything and I may with confidence rely on [illegible] my
[illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

Halifax, 27 May, 1854.

Thomas A. Scott Esq.
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir,

[illegible] you [illegible] form of a report the information [illegible] the [illegible] Mines [illegible] very [illegible] in [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] it was on the voyage here from Boston, and a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] finishing it until my arrival [illegible].

[illegible] that the information will [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible].

Very respectfully yours,
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

P. S. With [illegible] to the litigation of the [illegible] mine, to any one who has visited [illegible] the claim [illegible] [illegible] Grande Ranch [illegible] seems thoroughly absurd. No ranch could have been [illegible] in Mexican days in [illegible] so unfavorable to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] purposes. Our driver, Pitts, seemed to admit that he had got up [illegible] [illegible] opposite party. — B. J. L.

Report in regard to the New Idria Quicksilver Mines in California, by Benj. Smith Lyman, Mining Engineer, of Philadelphia Pa.

Mr. Wyatt took me to the New Idria Mines in company with Mr. Eakins; and we arrived at the Superintendent's office after the o'clock on the morning of the fifteenth of February last. We made a short visit to the furnaces close by while a lunch was preparing for us and after lunch walked a mile and a half or so up a ravine to the mines high up the mountain, visited them without a guide, and returned to the Superintendent in time to talk while with him and set out on our way back towards San Francisco at four o'clock. Of two or three other mines less worked within a few miles (five or six by road) we saw only at a distance the San Carlos and the Cauroon, the rest not at all. Our visit to the New Idria mines proper was then, and too short to determine much from actual observation, and the information we acquired was chiefly given by the Superintendent, Mr. Leslie, and by other inhabitants of the country. Mr. Leslie's statements were intelligent and precise [illegible] consistent with themselves as well as with the best information we had from other sources and what little we saw [illegible].

The ore (cinnabar) of the New Idria Mines appeared to be in veins of considerable regularity, crossing each other at various angles and with various nearly vertical dips, and the workings have already left large open spaces near the top of the mountain where this structure seems quite evident; and the veins are called with propriety "lodes" at the mines. In this respect, if the appearance did not deceive, very the deposits differ decidedly and advantageously from those of the New Almaden Mines, which are described both by their superintendent, Mr. Eldridge, and by the geologists of the State Survey as irregular deposits [illegible] with each other by some small veins and to be sought for without the help of any rules yet discovered. The veins of New Idria, if such they really are, can be worked to an indefinite distance in a horizontal direction or in depth, and without being absolutely uniform in width and richness will not be likely to differ on the average very greatly from the average of the exploration [illegible]

standing they need considerable [illegible] not very expensive repairs before they are used again. It is said that sufficiently good clay for fire brick is found in the neighborhood. Clay is also used for enrolling the finer part of the ore into bricks before it is put in the furnace. The only machines used for the mechanical preparation of the ore [illegible] three or four "jiggers" machines or sieves shaken in water by hand [illegible] the help of a lever, and these were in [illegible] repair.

The ore from the mines was [illegible] to contain at least five per cent. of quicksilver, when delivered at the furnaces, and is thought by Mr. Leslie to average [illegible] per cent. It was given to the furnaces in charges [illegible] and about [illegible] charges were made in the [illegible] in the [illegible] by all the furnaces together. The product in quicksilver was from 800 to 1000 flasks of 75 pounds [illegible]. This gives [illegible] average richness of the ore:

$$\text{Product} \quad \frac{\overset{\text{flasks}}{900} \times \overset{\text{lbs.}}{75}}{\underset{\text{charges}}{45\tfrac{1}{2}} \times \underset{\text{tons}}{9} \times \underset{\text{lbs}}{2000}} = \frac{\overset{\text{lbs.}}{67500}}{\underset{\text{lbs.}}{680000}} = \frac{135}{1278} = \underline{10{,}6 \text{ per cent}}$$

Of wood about one cord and a quarter was burnt to a charge, or 400 to 500 cords a year. It cost $2,50 a cord, and there is said to be an abundant supply of it in a pine forest up the valley to the southern.

Labor was said to be easily obtained, but with regard to its cost I have no definite information. In the California gold region, however, say at Grass Valley, miners are paid three dollars a day of ten hours, and at Washoe four dollars a day; and the wages would probably be three dollars a day at New Idria.

I have also no definite information with regard to the average cost of mining a ton of ore and of delivering it at the furnaces, nor with regard to that of extracting a pound or a flask of quicksilver.

The quicksilver is taken [illegible] in cast iron flasks. It was transported by contract from the furnaces to Gilroy, seventy-five miles, for two and a half cents a pound; but some people said the contractor lost by his contract. The road from the furnaces to Gilroy is at present [illegible] couple of very steep hills to cross and the [illegible] steep pitches [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible]

loaded wagon, but a small outlay would make the road a very good and easy one, and the absence of rain all summer would make repairs seldom necessary. Gilroy is on the good [illegible] stage road thirty miles southward from San Jose, the end of the railroad, and the cost of transportation from the furnaces to Gilroy may be reckoned as the whole of the disadvantage of the greater distance of these mines from the market as compared with New Almaden; unless the similarly increased cost of the comforts of life should enhance the price of labor.

On the eighteenth of February we visited [illegible] Almaden mines, and could make some comparison between them and New Idria. Our visit here also was extremely short.

The New Almaden ore, as already stated, lies in quite irregular deposits and one third of the whole mining force employed in searching for new deposits. The hills on which the mines are situated are not so high above the general level of the valley as at New Idria, so that a drift at their base would drain a less amount of productive rock other things being equal.

Sixteen furnaces similar to those of New Idria have recently been replaced by four large ones, the largest of the kind in the world. The charge is from 65000 to 80000 (sixty five to seventy thousand) pounds of ore. Sixteen charges had been made the last month but one, nineteen the last month and twenty would be the next. The product was commonly from 2000 to 25000 flasks a month, but was increasing; the product of the last month was 2600 flasks. Mr. Eldridge, the superintendent, thought there to average [illegible] per cent. of quicksilver; but from the last month's results we have:

$$\frac{\text{Product}}{\text{Ore}} \quad \frac{2600 \times 76\tfrac{1}{2}}{67500 \times 19} = \frac{198900}{1282500} = 15\tfrac{1}{2} \text{ per cent.}$$

The percentage was thought by Mr. Wood costs $5,00 a cord; it is oak wood and the supply is said to be abundant. About 100 cords a month, 1300 a year are burnt. Mr. Eldridge said it cost $17,00 a flask to extract quicksilver from the ore.

They have made excavations beneath the places where the sixteen furnaces stood and have found the earth rich in quicksilver that had leaked through, although the furnaces had stood upon stone ground together. The cost of extracting the quicksilver from this earth is only $2,00 a flask, and some 2000 flasks have been already recovered from this source. The new furnaces rest upon brick arches, and the quicksilver that leaks through is collected in a trough below.

In conclusion I may say that I think the New Idria mines extremely valuable, although less valuable than those of New Almaden, and that the cost of extracting the quicksilver from their ore ought to leave a good profit at present prices.

[illegible]
Mining Engineer [illegible]

[illegible] Halifax, 27 May 1866

Mid. Bay, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, 7 June 1860.

E. W. R. Lyman Esq.
New York.

My dear Uncle,

Enclosed please find a first bill of exchange for three hundred dollars payable in gold drawn at three days sight by Robert Bellows on the Blockhouse Mining Company, No. 43 Broadway and endorsed by me payable to your order. It is made payable in gold because of the uncertainty here of the premium on the Nova Scotia currency with which I bought the bill. Please convert it into United States Currency and you keeping yourself what I owe you place the remainder to my credit.

This bill is three quarters settled I have been paid on the work that occupies me at present. I hope to send you in a few days two or three hundred dollars more of Nova Scotia currency that will be due me on a survey I made last autumn. I should be glad to have you hold the money, subject to my draft until my return to the states.

Your affectionate Nephew.

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay near Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia;
7 June, 1884.

Dear Mary:

I was obliged to leave Boston without being able even to ascertain whether you had so far complied with my invitation to accompany me to Cape Breton and try to meet me in Boston. I could not reach Boston until the morning of sailing, a day later than I had expected when I asked you to meet me there and I was occupied in running about to do a little shopping and in getting my baggage aboard the steamer during the little time I had in Boston. I took it, however, almost for granted that you would understand my reason for not looking you up if you were there and that you would meet me at the steamer. I telegraphed however the night before to Joseph from New York that I should not be able to go out there to Jamaica Plain as I had promised.

If you made the attempt to come with me I hope you will not be discouraged but will come down here later. I got from James half a promise to come down here too, and I am just going to write him to come by the next steamer from Boston, a fortnight from tomorrow. I am bound of course to finish up my work here as soon as possible, and it may not last more than six weeks or so longer, so it would be best for you to come as soon as possible. If you can come by the next steamer telegraph to me at Sydney, and I will secure your passage from Halifax to Sydney in the Newfoundland steamer the Mersey that lies at the same wharf at Halifax where you land in the steamer from Boston, and starts a couple of hours after your arrival there. Your baggage going to Sydney will not be opened by the Custom House Officer. I may possibly be able to go up to Halifax on a little piece of business and meet you; if not I will meet you on your landing at Sydney.

When I came the other day with Barnard we had very smooth water from Boston to Halifax but very foggy weather so that we had to go slow and whistle nearly all the way. We lay over a day

at Halifax to do some business and came down the rest of the way to Sydney in the mail stage. We had a Sunday on the road and the coach commonly lies by that day at Antigonish during the day but we with a couple of other passengers and a portion only of our baggage came on in an extra in the afternoon to the Out of Cause, and had a comfortable night's rest on this side. We reached Sydney safely about six Tuesday morning. We spent the day there, partly in napping, partly in doing a little business and partly in visiting old acquaintances. I passed a very agreeable evening with the McLaurens, who were very much interested in the war news on account of their having several [illegible] relatives in the armies on both sides. People down here seem to be just as skeptical of our success in the war as they were last year. [illegible] of the principal newspapers seem to be controlled by the rebel [illegible] that is so strong at Halifax, and the rest of the provinces [illegible] all their information about the war twisted by the very strong refracting medium of these papers. There are, however, a few good [illegible] that I know down here, and I enjoy their society very much.

I find Bourinot a better fellow than I had expected to. He makes things as comfortable for me as he can and is disposed to be quite liberal towards me. I feel quite safe about my getting paid by him; he has already paid me what will amount to some seven hundred dollars in greenbacks. I have applied for another coal mining claim and have transferred it to him for a tenth interest in that and his other three adjoining; but about that say nothing at present. The claims are proving to be more valuable than he expected, and he came near selling them for a hundred thousand dollars greenbacks; but the buyers preferred on the whole to see the coal opened first.

One more survey or reconnaissance for me down here is talked of by a man of importance here; but I have some doubt as to whether he will still desire it when I am at leisure a couple of months hence, and when he knows my price, especially as it is very doubtful whether the claim is of any value. However, that will not probably last long at any rate.

Please send me by mail two leather drinking cups, to be bought at J. H. Fowles.

Give my love to all. Your affectionate Brother, Benj. Smith Lyman

Cow Bay near Sydney Cape Breton Nova Scotia
7 June 1866.

Dear James:

I hope you will be able to come down here [illegible] a few weeks, and I write now especially to be that you will come by the next steamer from Boston, on Wednesday, the twenty second of June. Very work may possibly not occupy one here more than six weeks or so longer and if you should delay longer your visit might be too short. I hope you will bring Mary or Lizzie with you. I have especially invited Mary, because I thought the change would be particularly beneficial to her health. If you will let me know by telegraph that you are coming by that steamer I can secure your passage from Halifax to Sydney in the Newfoundland Steamer, the Merlin. This steamer lies at the same wharf at which you land in Halifax, and sails a couple of hours after your arrival. Your baggage going by her to Sydney need not be opened by the Custom House Officer at Halifax. You might perhaps find it more convenient to come by the steamer that leaves Boston every Sunday and Thursday (I think) for St John's Brunswick, touching at Portland and Eastport. From St Johns you cross [illegible] Nova Scotia, and go from there to Halifax; thence to Sydney by the fortnightly steamer, or by the tri-weekly mail by railroad to Truro and then by stage. But the stage route is very [illegible] obliging you to travel a couple of nights all night, still it gives you a sight of a good large part of the province.

If you will come I will not only pay your expenses as I proposed, but, if you will help me in my work, will pay you at the rate of a hundred dollars a month (greenbacks) while you are [illegible] here. If you have not cash on hand enough to pay your expenses down, you can draw on Uncle Edward, showing him this, for he will have some money of mine by the time you receive this. I hope you will come, but fear that your present employer will accede to your demands as soon as he finds you ready to go, and that he will [illegible] you [illegible].

I find Bonnivot a very good natured, generous fellow,

a little Don Juanish, but I feel quite sure of his paying me any. He has already paid me ~~that~~ will amount to some seven hundred dollars in greenbacks. He seems very anxious to make me as comfortable as possible in the matter of living, an anxiety that I did not observe in my employers or their agents last year down here.

I have applied for another mining claim adjoining his three claims here and have transferred it to him for a thousand dollars gold coin for which he shall sell all four; but say nothing of this. I hope it will prove quite a little "spec." for me, since his claims are more valuable than he expected them to prove, and be worked them before at a hundred thousand dollars greenbacks.

Please send me by mail two of those mosquito nets to throw over the head such as may be seen perambulating in front of the Park on Broadway. I tried to get one when I was there but could not make the change (one dollar). If you come yourself with a willingness to work in the woods bring one for yourself too. They are manufactured by some body of the name of Green and his name may perhaps be found in the directory, if the peddler is not to be found on Broadway.

I wish too that you would subscribe for me for the New York Evening Post, semiweekly edition, for a year, and give them my address "Sydney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia."

I ask you to do these things hoping not to trouble you much but them as far up town as you are, but thinking that you can probably attend to them through some errand boy attached to your office.

I meant to ask you when I was in New York if you kept a file of the Commonwealth. If you do not I wish you would save up all the numbers you may happen to have now and what you may receive in future; for I have kept a file of this up to my departure for California, and should like to complete it and still wish to be at liberty to part with the numbers I may receive while away, to some one.

Your affectionate Brother.
Benj. Smith Lyman

Coal Bay Esq. Dr to Wm Dodds

Maine, 1821

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I spent Sunday in working on a table for the corner of Hellaw's map showing the amount of coal in acres and tons in each vein in each of his leases, above and below tide level. Then I dined with him at five o'clock and spent the evening in beginning to transfer the table to the map. This is still unfinished however and is to occupy me next Sunday, together with the report. I hope however to get over to Glace Bay to see Mr. Poole next Sunday before the day is out.

Your friends in Sydney inquired affectionately after you especially Ward. He was much pleased with your [illegible] of Partons Butler, and said he should be glad to send you a copy of his paper for a while, and took your address for that purpose. I told him I thought you would like it. I passed a very pleasant evening with the Marquesans who were much interested in the war news because they have near relatives in the armies of both sides. "Very seem" to be good Unionists. Nova Scotians seem to be as uncertain of our future success in the war as they were a year ago. Thos. Ross [illegible] rebel [illegible], Mr. Ferguson, bothered me a few minutes while I was at Woods [illegible]. Mrs. Rigby is as blooming as ever, and looks [illegible] and healthier [illegible] last year. Her daughter is at home again after a winter in New York. Her [illegible] son is in the army of the [illegible].

I like Barnard on the whole much better than I appeared to. He is very good natured and generous, a little too Jacobinish; but honest by [illegible] in business matters. At any rate I feel safe about my pay; he [illegible] already paid me what will amount to some seven hundred dollars in greenbacks. I applied in Halifax for another [illegible] of Sand covering the corner south east of the corner of Archibald's leasehold. Barnard's southeastern claim. This was all that [illegible] vacant in all this basin. I have transferred this claim to Barnard not for a tenth of the proceeds of his sale of all four claims. He now [illegible] his claims in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as much more valuable than he thought them last winter when he valued them at a hundred thousand dollars greenbacks. He treats me very well indeed and is far more anxious for my comfort than anybody was for our down here last year.

Captain Parrott and Head have been busy at the claims near Bridgeport. They just went up to Halifax yesterday. They abuse you and ask to Bouvinot, knew of course two or three years ago every thing that we knew now about Cape Breton coals, but still talk about the identity of the Macaulay and Ross beds and of the Phalen and Bellarion and Bridgeport beds, and claim to have the Spencer bed below the Ross bed.

Bouvinot and I are living at the house of the Skipper Mr Smith, who was formerly skipper at the Blockhouse Mines. Bouvinot and I sleep sit and eat in the same room, but he insists on my [illegible] the best of every thing when only one of us can have it. He brings [illegible] out wines, porter, ale, whiskey, canned [illegible] vegetables for my [illegible] [illegible] from his father at Sydney, and vegetables very well, [illegible] [illegible] of living. He puts implicit faith in [illegible] and I [illegible] [illegible] a bigger man than [illegible] [illegible]. If I get the coals I [illegible] [illegible], I shall be quite a little good [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] credit inquite of myself for the success of the boring at McCauley's.

I saw Hendry at Halifax and took tea with [illegible] [illegible] me the whole story of his difficulties last winter. Chas. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with Converse about the Converse [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Hendry's personal character and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] supported by the House. His failure would have [illegible] [illegible] his office, but he did not value [illegible] [illegible], feeling confident of his ability to do as well otherwise. Parrott and Head whom he had [illegible] befriended became [illegible] friends or even opponents. Johnson, Attorney General at the time and of the opposite party to Hendry befriended him [illegible] portantly. Henry, now Attorney General used the [illegible] of his [illegible] and power against Hendry in favor of Campbell. The Mining Laws [illegible] thoroughly changed, the former Gold Commissioner, Hamilton, has [illegible] Chief Commissioner of Mines and is to have under him a practical Mining Engineer of experience to inspect mines and guide mining operations; and Hendry and Fairbanks have no larger any connection with the [illegible] of the Province. Hendry seems in no very good spirits, probably in consequence of these troubles. He has moved into another house, a large old fashioned one [illegible] from the centre of town. His wife and children are well, the latter apparently about to be increased in number soon.

Give my love to Cambusen and Meggie if they are still with you.

Very affectionately yours. Benj. Smith Lyman

Cow Bay June 9th 1864.

J. S. Fairbanks, Esquire
Commissioner of Crown Lands
Halifax.

Sir,

Understanding that an application has been made to the Government for a grant of the False Bay Beach on the north shore of Miré Bay, Cape Breton, I hasten to submit a protest against any such grant. — without regarding merely the policy hitherto generally pursued by the Government of keeping similar beaches and bars open to the public, I wish also to remind you that it may become desirable to parties interested in neighbouring Coal mining claims to open a ship canal through this Beach for the conversion of the pond inside into a harbor for the shipment of Coal. I have myself in connection with others the intention of applying to the Government for permission to construct such a harbor canal as soon as the meeting of the Legislature may enable an act of Incorporation to be passed; for this pond seems to afford a very convenient shipping place for a large body of Coal that underlies the areas on which I have obtained the right to search for minerals. It may be proper to add that the search I have undertaken at considerable expense is likely to benefit eventually not merely myself but the country at large, so that few persons could ask more reasonably for a delay at least of any action upon the application for a grant of this beach.

I am,
Sir,
Yours respectfully.
Marshall Bourinot.

Cow Bay, Cape Breton, 10 June, 1864.

P. J. Hamilton Esq.
Chief Commissioner of Mines,
Halifax.

Sir,

I send you herewith a sketch in conformity with the plans of the Crown Land Office to illustrate my recent application for a License to Search for Minerals at Cow Bay. I understood Mr. Handley of the Crown Land Office that he would prepare such a plan for you, but infer that I was mistaken from your not sending me the blank bonds through Mr. Marshall Barnaby as you promised.

Hoping that I may soon receive this bond from you so that it may be properly filled and the grant made out,

I remain, Sir,

Very respectfully yours.

Benj. Smith Lynam

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Cape Bay, Cape Breton; 10 June, 1864.

P. S. Hamilton Esq.
Chief Commissioner of Mines,
Halifax.

Sir;

I send you herewith a sketch in conformity with the plans of the Crown Land Office to illustrate my recent application for a License to Search for Mineral at Cape Bay. I understood Mr. Hardy of the Crown Land Office that he would prepare such a plan for you, but infer that I was mistaken from your not sending me the Mark Bond through Mr. Marshall Bennett as you promised.

Hoping that I may even receive this bond from you so that it may be properly filed and the grant made out,

I remain, Sir,

Very respectfully yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman

Benj. Smith Lyman in account with Robert Bellone Esq.

		Dr.			Cr.
30 Nov. 1863.	To Expenses of Trip to Ship Harbor as in special account rendered	$22,23	16 Nov. 1863.	By Cash	$250
			7 Dec. 1863.	By Cash	150,00
					400
12 June, 1864.	To Geological and Topographical Survey of Coal Lands at Cow Bay, C.B., two months labor at $200	400,00		Balance	22,23
		422,23			422,23

Castlebury, near Sydney, Capetown, Devonshire;
17 June 1864.

Wm. J. Young Esq.
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir;

My friend, Mr. David McKeen, County Surveyor of Crown Lands, has been looking at my transit, and wishes to have one like it, and if possible of your making. Before definitely ordering one, however, he wishes to know how soon he could probably have it sent to him, and what its cost would be. He is anxious to have it as soon as possible, and I fear from what you told me that you will hardly be able to attend to it soon enough. I told him what mine cost but I was afraid you had raised your prices since last winter. He doesn't feel able to pay a large price, but as long as gold is as dear as at present, he could afford to pay what I paid. I should be very much pleased if you could serve him; and I beg you will drop me a line about the matter at your very earliest convenience.

My transit arrived here in good condition, but the solar compass had its plate very badly bent, so as to make the instrument useless until you repair it.

Very respectfully yours
Benj. Smith Lyman.

[illegible]
[illegible]

Mr. J. Young Esq.
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:

My friend, Mr. David McKeen, Counsellor-
[illegible] Court Lands, has been [illegible] at my [illegible], and wishes
to have one title it, and if possible of your [illegible] before
definitely ordering me, however, he wishes to know [illegible] he
could probably have it sent to him, and what it will [illegible]
be. He is anxious to have it as soon as possible, and if you
from what you tell me that you will hardly be able to attend
to it [illegible]. I told him what [illegible] [illegible]
you had [illegible] your prices since last [illegible]. He doesn't
feel able to pay a large price, but as long as [illegible] is as
[illegible] at present, he could afford to pay what I [illegible],
I should be very much pleased if you could [illegible]
him; and I beg you will [illegible] me a line about it [illegible]
at your very earliest convenience.

My [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] good condition, but it
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] very badly [illegible], so as [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] until you [illegible] it.

Very respectfully yours
[illegible]

Cow Bay Cape Breton. 24 Jan. 1864.

P. L. Hamilton Esq.
Chief Commissioner of Mines.
Halifax.

Dear Sir;

Your favor of the sixteenth is just at hand. I return you herewith the bond filled up as required, and remain, sir,

Very respectfully yours.
Benj. Smith Dyer.

Cow Bay, Cape Breton, 24 June 86.

General W. K. Strong,

President of the International Coal Company,

Sydney.

Dear Sir,

I must beg finally to decline giving you the communication you requested of me in regard to the Coal rights of the International Company and my excuse is the delicacy I feel in respect to Prof. Lesley's concern in the matter. It seems to me that to give you the facts you desire would be helping to rob him of what is justly his due; and that would be especially ungracious in me, as it was in the capacity of his assistant and through him that I gained the information in question.

He has undoubtedly still in readiness his report upon your coal claims, and it could be made available in New York as soon as any report of mine, and, by the help of telegraphing to him, even sooner.

I remain dear sir

Very respectfully yours.

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay, Cape Breton; 24 June 1864.

J. H. Converse Esq.
Sydney.

Dear Sir;

Yours of the sixth of June came duly to hand. I should be happy to meet you soon as you propose but cannot conveniently see you at Sydney on your arrival tomorrow. Should you find it convenient, however, to drive out this way, you could easily find me either in the house or at my field work. Mr. Bourniot and I are both living in the house of his Skipper Mr. Smith, half a mile above Mr. Archibald's mine; our borings are a mile and a half nearer Sydney, near McRurys farm on the Cow Bay and Sydney Road; and my surveying for the next few days will probably be still further along that road towards Sydney.

I have been trying for two or three Sundays to get over to Glace Bay to pay Mr. Poole a visit, and hope once more to succeed day after tomorrow. If you should be thereby that time, I could have the pleasure of seeing you there.

Very truly yours.
Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay near Sydney, Cape Breton.
1 July 1864.

John W. Sullivan Esq.
Brookline.

Dear Sir;

Your favor of the thirteenth of June is at hand; and my high regard for Mr. Sanborn, whom you mention, makes me anxious to reply satisfactorily to the question you propose.

You ask first, "whether Gold, Copper, Lead, Silver or Coal would be [illegible] certain to yield heavy dividends." It seems to me that Coal by all odds bears the palm for certainty of profit, whether small or large, because coal beds are far more regular than veins [illegible] and can be calculated on much more surely; to say nothing of the backwardness of our country in the arts of mining and reducing the [illegible] ores. My information in regard to the yield of the Nova Scotia Gold Mines is probably not much fuller than your own. The official [illegible] reports of the average yield for the ton crushed make the quartz [illegible] compared with the California gold quartz, but I do not [illegible] the Nova Scotia quartz veins nor the actual cost of mining than by the ton. The Coal [illegible] Nova Scotia and [illegible] offer another fine opportunity for mining speculation, and perhaps equally good chances are to be found in Pennsylvania or elsewhere in the States where coal fields are opened up now and then by new railroads. Coal mining rights here are not sold with the land but are granted temporarily by the government. A right of search for coal costs twenty dollars covers five square miles and lasts a year; during that time a square mile may be selected and a right to work it obtained for fifty dollars; if effective operations are begun within two years a lease is given by the government for a royalty of ten cents a ton. I will send you a copy of the mining laws of the province. The Coal claim you speak of on Boulardrie Island is probably supposed to contain within its square mile only one or two hundred acres of coal. I know of no such claim on Boulardrie [illegible]

[illegible] at any rate further from Sydney than you were told. I think the claim must be that of Collins and Gaudron on the Little Bras d'Or, near North Sydney, opposite to Boulardrie Island; but I believe there is in reality only one bed of coal there. With regard to the money value of the claim I can give you no idea without having made at least a cursory examination of it. The mines demanded for such claims are naturally exceedingly various, even aside from their real difference of value.

I should not be sorry to form a permanent connection, for a salary or for a salary and part interest, with a Mining Company of such merits and character as you speak of; and should be happy to hear from you further on that point. I have no engagement at present beyond the next six or eight weeks.

You would doubtless find it an agreeable summer journey and one perhaps conducive to your health to visit Cape Breton; and you might perhaps find here some satisfactory opportunity for mining investment. I am [illegible] occupied in opening the coals upon four adjoining [illegible] of each of five square miles each belonging to Mr. [illegible] Bouscaut, and I expect to prove that at least from [illegible] good [illegible] of a mile each with three or four workable beds may be selected from them. A good harbor can be made at a comparatively small cost at False Bay Beach only four miles distant from the centre of the main body of the coal.

I remain, dear Sir,

Very respectfully yours

Benj. Smith Lyman

[illegible]

[illegible] Bay 2 July 1864.

Joseph [illegible] Esq.

Dear Sir,

My application last fall for a license [illegible] for Mineral [illegible] Bay, was intended for the benefit [illegible] [illegible] Messrs. [illegible] Howe and [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] at any future [illegible] within that claim such license [illegible] [illegible] paper, or [illegible] first if you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in your own name for [illegible] [illegible] license [illegible], according to the [illegible] [illegible]

I enclose a rough sketch to show how I consider it [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Very respectfully yours

[illegible]

[Copy.]

Little Glace Bay, 4 July, 1864.

S. P. Fairbanks Esq.
Halifax

Sir,

Mr. Joseph H. Converse in presenting you this will inform you of his willingness to withdraw his application for a License to Work within the Right of Search applied for by me last fall at Big Glace Bay. I beg, therefore, you will place in his hands the agent of this application of mine, and you relieve on my filing the bond the other day because of his recent application.

I remain Sir,

Very respectfully yours,
Benj. Smith Lyman

[illegible]

Cow Bay. E. R. 7th July. 1864.

P. S. Hamilton, Esqr.
Chief Commissioner of Mines.
Halifax.

Sir,

Your favor of the 2d. with is at hand enclosing the receipt for twenty Dollars paid in application for a Right to Gold at False Bay Lake.

You say that this Right is already covered by the Licence of Mr. Parsons, but I desire to call your attention to the fact that his claim as it appears upon the official plans would contain fully five square miles on the mainland; and, while its width is two miles, its western boundary is made some three miles long apparently for the express purpose of not including the Lake, nor the Land Eastward of that within the Five Square miles. If this view should seem reasonable to you on a re-examination of the plans I beg to renew my application for a Right of Search over the Lake and over the adjoining portion of the peninsula to the East of False Bay Lake.

I have the honor to remain,
Sir,
Your most obdt. servt.
Marshall Bourinot

Cow Bay C. B. 7th July 1864.

P. S. Hamilton Esqre
Chief Commissioner of Mines.
Halifax.

Sir,

Your favor of the second instant is at hand enclosing two receipts of twenty dollars each paid for [illegible] of two Rights of Search near Cow Bay.

I send you herewith the original licenses to receive [illegible] Endorsement from you and

I have the honor to remain &c

Sir,

Very Respectfully
Your most obdt. Servt.
Marshall Bourinot

New Bay C.B., 10 July 1864

Dear Mr. Ashley,

I am [illegible] that the weather has come fine and hot. My visit from [illegible] gone this way week I have not written since as nothing [illegible] I have not seen Lea a little & write and find [illegible] for writing more than that.

In the first place there is great news up here. We have found [illegible] evening at 7 o'clock in the north end of the bay & Mr. Lea's statement and Mr. Campbell had gone to the Old Mail Bed, & [illegible] and Lea in bed and Mr. [illegible] Wilson in the South Head of New Bay, which I spoke from my [illegible] all difficulties. The bed at the very tip of the South Head of Mail, some 260 feet above the sea. When we first visited Ross's mine last year you took the course of the bed going S 65° E, and from the dip of the coals which appeared 0 [illegible] 6°20 E.; and you will remember in your note book and [illegible]. Last night I looked up these notes and found my recent [illegible] I am going on this week [illegible] and prove the fact, with the help of a sketch given by [illegible] of the coal in the head. The coal there is said by [illegible] to have 2 ft 2½ ft coal, in the middle 2 or 2½ ft. slate, & bottom 5 ft coal. At [illegible] the parting is 2½ ft of clay and the upper and lower benches contain [illegible] ders of very fine coal. This will add much to the [illegible] of the Blue Bay and [illegible] seams. This accounts for the [illegible] of coal at the shoulder on the north side of Big Harbour Bay [illegible] for some story of Parrott and Hendry [illegible] will [illegible] claims near Bridgeport, & [illegible] the Mail Head. It also adds much to Wilson's coals for [illegible] to consider before that Wilson was a thickening of a three foot [illegible] that lies below it, and is really as thin as the workings in the Mail. I had also thought that Wilson's coal might be the Mail [illegible] but now it [illegible] the end of the Head the Bridgeport is on this [illegible] The coal at Wilson's has been observed to resemble Ross greatly [illegible] in great doubt but the running [illegible]

to be found on Rominot's claims. The identification that I expect to make will remove all doubt on this point, and add Wilson's coal positively to the Macauley, Spencer, and McPhail. I am now satisfied that the Spencer is the Bridgeport or Campbell Bed, and it has been [illegible] on the shore on the north side of this basin by Bellaire and found to give six feet of coal, all in one bed, with five inches more of slate or slaty coal that is reported by a former worker of the opening to become all [illegible] in. Its thickness made Bellaire and his people take this to be the Macauley Bed, especially as what is really the northern crop of the Macauley Bed [illegible] reopening to give only some three feet and a half of coal in two benches. This I am convinced is the Back Pit coal, and its section and quality corresponds very well to what you noted at the Back Pit in 1862. Even at Archibald's this is true, but the coal is there a little thicker, while on the north side of this basin it is thinner than at the Back Pit. In our borings, we succeeded only yesterday in finding this Macauley bed, and the borer reports it to be five feet thick of coal with fifteen inches of slate or bony coal on top. My trouble in finding it arose in part I think from putting faith in a story that made the coal in front of McCauley's house to be the upper part of the Spencer Bed, while it must be the lower one fifteen feet below, and also in part I fear to an error in my [illegible] this road past McCauley's last year, in June. I am confident too, still, that we should have struck the McPhail Coal [illegible] first [illegible] not a bit broken at the depth of twenty eight feet. Much time has been lost in digging a couple of deep wet [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] fifty feet southward of the first, and I fear now that even this last one is so far in that direction as to give no [illegible] coal, [illegible] so deep to find rock. I have selected a promising place for a boring for the Wilson Coal, and digging will begin there tomorrow. Rancound the end of the South Head of Cow Bay the other day, found that Wilson had about eighty acres only of this coal and got to strike, S. 32° E., very different from what we have on this side the bay S. 71° ± E. I have run round the head of the Bay to [illegible] mine, and find that coal to be just about two thousand feet below Wilson's supposing the dip to be uniform from here [illegible]

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Dick I doubt. I think I shall run along the whole of the southern side of the South Head and perhaps measure a section, to ascertain more precisely the depth of Tracy's coal below the [illegible], before [illegible] for it. I have this last week been running out the Sydney road to the Big Glace Bay Road nine or ten miles from Sydney and then down that road to connect [illegible] with the end of my last [illegible] E near the head of Big Glace Bay. On the Sydney Road I found strongly marked coal [illegible] in one place, and solid [illegible] in two other places, and glacial scratches in one of them. The [illegible] Bed apparently continues straight for a mile or more west of our boring, and makes strong indications [illegible] at the west end of [illegible] Lake, so that I feel confident [illegible] of the coal from the [illegible] and as the Archibalds expected would confine [illegible] Bed to their lease. This discovery of the fact that the [illegible] permanently workable Bed below the [illegible] gives [illegible] a good body of coal [illegible] claim they have adjoining [illegible] to make [illegible] borings [illegible] but [illegible] that [illegible] in borings [illegible] would [illegible] survey. Blowers has tried very hard to [illegible] me about the [illegible] Coal. By their penny wise and pound foolish [illegible] they have become attached to the very worst of all the workable seds in [illegible]. I believe Tracy is not so illiberal as Blowers.

I have a long story to tell about my Right of Search at Big Glace Bay which, you know, I was intending to give to Mr. Converse and his associates, Messrs. Emery, Howe and Hubbard. When Mr. Bouvier and I came through Halifax he was so kind as to get the bondsmen for me for that [illegible], which was all that had been looking to [illegible] the licence last December, and which Hendry had [illegible] to get for me after my departure, as he promised. The licence was all ready, made out under the old Sydney and in Mr. [illegible] Hawkes's care; but he was unwilling to give it up to me because the Converse [illegible] applied for a licence to work within that area and

under my claim, saying that [illegible] applied for in his behalf
and [illegible] and Mr. Fairbanks had reported in favor of his application. I was
much surprised to hear of this action of Converse's, for I had never
definitely stated to him what I intended to do with the claim, and
had been waiting for some weeks to receive the license before communi-
cating with him about it. Just after my application last fall on our
way down from Halifax together in the steamer I told him and
Howe about my application giving them to understand that it was
in their interest that I made the application, thinking it better that
this claim should belong to me than to some strangers, and if they had
seemed to feel much interest in the matter I might have turned the
whole affair over to them; but they did not, and only Dr. Howe
expressed to Spinney that it was [illegible] well to have made the application.
I had risked my ~~twenty dollars~~, a large sum last year, and I had
many doubts as to what I would finally do with the claim, having great
faith in its value, whether it should be given unconditionally or conditionally
to them, now or by and by; only meaning that my [illegible] should be
no injury to them. I finally determined to give it [illegible] unconditionally
and said something of the kind [illegible]
Converse's claim to license to work. [illegible]
selected and far earlier [illegible] and [illegible]
At Fairbanks's suggestion I wrote to Converse about it [illegible] what
I had done. His reply expressed regret at my [illegible] by
my motives, and never yet a word of recognition for my efforts in
the matter nor for my twenty dollars. I saw him [illegible] week
ago at Little Glass Bay, and in [illegible] of it he and Dr. Howe both
seemed to fail to perceive that they were receiving from me anything
more than they had had from the [illegible] to demand. I found
that Converse had retained the Receiver General's [illegible]
I gave him on the steamer last fall; but I forgot all about it, and I
am sure I never charged him with the money, for I never felt authorized
to not knowing until this summer that he cared enough about the claim
to pay even that for it. They seemed to feel so little interest in it that
was unwilling to ask Dr. Howe and Mr. Emery to be my bondsmen
Halifax last winter, and upon Hardy's giving them a [illegible] to offer

[illegible] nothing of the kind. I straightened up the matter [illegible] and washed my hands finally of it by giving Mr. Converse a letter [illegible] [illegible] gave the claim to him and the others and another letter to Faribault requesting him to give Ray licence to Mr. Converse, also [illegible] to withdraw his former application so as to take out a more [illegible] one next October.

Converse and the others have at their disposal two rights of search in the names of Lee and John Campbell, west of the Intermediate leases, and they have concluded to have one open [illegible] coals here when I am done here, and I agreed to do so. The [illegible] Bed affair will be a good thing for them, especially if it does not get wind too soon. Bourinot will also have a little of that Bed in that portion of his third claim.

Converse and the others are beginning also to open the [illegible] Bed on the Converse lease. They had begun to have a drain dug to the pit I sank back of Boulders, and as that shows the coal below water level they expected to work gradually up to water level on going westward. He found however that they would probably get to water level with a roof over the coal only in about [illegible] feet, and it was [illegible] decided to be much better to give up their digging and dig a drain directly from above to that point, a distance of about six hundred feet, counting upon having a good roof when the water level of the coal passes under the [illegible] foot [illegible] contour line. So before returning here last Monday morning I pointed out the place to begin the drain on the shore and its direction, and I am to go other there occasionally and see how things get on. I shall pay the place a visit to morrow when I finish my morning with the [illegible] Sandy Boulder, who has eldest son is [illegible] [illegible] and has [illegible] under him. The Methiest daughter, Mary Jane, has been [illegible] [illegible] to the [illegible] [illegible] pile driving at Little Glen Bay.

Mr. Converse also sounded me as to my [illegible] in regard to accepting the [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible]

Lacey either by Parliament unless or possibly by them. I proposed to the directors
[illegible] a scheme on many accounts, but requiring a big salary, very likely
[illegible] me for him, but I made no definite proposal on [illegible]. Barnes
[illegible] however, is counting upon me for the superintendence of the works and
[illegible] mines, and that would probably involve the much larger than Commons
[illegible] under Work four or five or more hours a week. We should natu-
rally prefer to stay here, especially as Patrick Bannerman and his men will
be willing as well as from the extent of their works able [illegible] a larger
salary than Commons and his. Perhaps you think me very [illegible]
to grasp at such enormous responsibilities; but I think [illegible]
[illegible] under the shippers a superintendent has, and not [illegible]
[illegible] under Henry Russell [illegible] being [illegible]
permitted any [illegible], the superintendent can be saved a vast
amount of care about details and so manage a good deal of
work. I have in fact some fancy for being employed, I should like,
by [illegible] Companies in [illegible], say a dozen with a
good salary from each, to visit them all frequently and be
then consulted about their general plans of operation, while su-
perintendents of [illegible] which, paid by each [illegible]
Bellairs and say Blowers [illegible], many [illegible]
can get a year [illegible]
are not to [illegible] below Spanish values, I [illegible] no desire to obtain
[illegible] command attention; for I [illegible]
[illegible], especially if [illegible]
[illegible] I was [illegible] many years, [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Sunday Evening. [illegible] I think a letter, especially such an one, should be finished without because even in the letter the [illegible] in the relative value of gold and writing [illegible] correspondingly [illegible] in the [illegible] penny things and result in a [illegible] [illegible] Who do you think [illegible] in gold a year? [illegible] enough, too much or too little! Very [illegible] [illegible] at Harvard, [illegible] in writing, from a [illegible] [illegible] in the [illegible] mines, and now finishing his third year at Freiberg [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Bank [illegible] information [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] July 10th 1864.

My dear [illegible]

Your letter of the 21st arrived the fourth, and your letter of the 1st of March by way of Philadelphia three days after. We were very glad to hear from you, and pleased that you had been well and prosperous. [illegible] I have never received one. [illegible] my last was written.

I wish you an account which must be very interesting. It is well for you to [illegible] as a staff officer, by a sight of [illegible] this is an enormous [illegible] and I hardly expect you will [illegible] I am glad to think that [illegible] a subject for very full [illegible] in the letter [illegible] have been of late years, and especially of [illegible] mining frontier and plantation life [illegible] I am glad that you like [illegible] your office; I feared it might [illegible] you [illegible] will [illegible] and the prospect you [illegible] of [illegible] in Europe, and [illegible] of [illegible] you [illegible]. [illegible] and [illegible] my thanks, and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

dollars. I took out a coal claim on coming down here which I transferred to my present employer, Marshall Barnett, for tenth interest in the proceeds of the sale of all his claims here, which he valued in New York at a hundred thousand dollars but which I am going to prove to be much more valuable than I supposed. Whew! At that rate I cannot only go to Europe but get married to what I supposed formerly to be incompatible. In fact my long cogitation on the journey home from California brought me to the desire to get married if I could satisfactorily even at the risk of my European trip. This was in cold blood. I was only afraid hitherto that in hot blood I might get caught. If I make a small fortune in mining it may yet be possible for me to carry out my intention of marrying, but I was thinking that I had come to my resolution too late, if it would ever have been in time. I thought that it had become perhaps quite impossible for me to find anybody that would come quite [illegible] to [illegible], and if I did that it would be equally impossible for me to gain her consent. The last trouble [illegible] exist but I intend to bring a great amount of engineering in play, if a case arises, and to remember that a man that's his own lawyer has a fool for his client. As for the former trouble, I had hardly arrived in Sydney before I saw a young lady that I thought would evil me to a T, and I have only been waiting patiently ever since for a second visit to Sydney to set my engineering in [illegible]. I am afraid [illegible] of no use, for I am [illegible] I am [illegible] or [illegible] her senior, and therefore probably too old to make a union with [illegible] desirable [illegible], even although by engineering skill she might be brought to that opinion. By engineering I mean civil engineering, not mining. Could you [illegible] perhaps any young lady as a candidate for my choice? [illegible] I am quite cool in the matter, and intend to make a marriage [illegible], [illegible] upon sound judgment. I hope you will not consider this long rigmarole all got up as an excuse for my being smitten with a beautiful girl in Sydney; so common an occurrence as that has been [illegible], me needs no such excuse.

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[illegible] enough but lacks rain all through the summer so that scarcely [illegible] grows [illegible] upon it. By the labor of the soldiers canals of large size [illegible] could be made for irrigation, all that is required to make a garden of what is now a desert. The Mormons have done this in Utah. The soldiers are [illegible] idle in those forts, and afford a striking exemplification, it is said, of [illegible] finding [illegible] mischief still for idle hands to do. Perhaps this is the concealed [illegible] of our Indian troubles; for I firmly believe that the whites [illegible] to blame for them all without an exception. The plan I propose for these western forts could be applied also to the posts that will have to be maintained in the south for some years, it is to be hoped with the black soldiers. I would have liked to [illegible] to the [illegible] or two other subjects that do not seem to [illegible] just now. Perhaps one was to urge the propriety and necessity of [illegible] a large force to litter to subdue thoroughly the Mormons before they become more [illegible]. I have seen some of the sights [illegible] has described in the Atlantic; his extravagant style has not probably [illegible] exaggeration.

Give my regards to your wife and [illegible] and believe me

Very affectionately yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia; 17 July 18[illegible]

Samuel L. Gould Esq.
Cambridge

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the second instant is at hand, inquiring when and on what terms I could explore your Right of Search at Mirré.

You probably desire first a cursory preliminary examination or reconnaissance of the tract, so as to determine whether it would be worthwhile to undertake a more minute survey with reference to the opening of coal beds, if any exist there. I should be happy to undertake such a reconnaissance, but my present engagements would probably prevent me from doing so for two or three months to come. My terms would be two hundred dollars in gold, and I would pay my own expenses.

Very respectfully yours.
Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay C. B.; 15 July 1864.

P. S. Hamilton Esq.
Chief Commissioner of Mines.
Halifax.

Sir,

I have the honor of sending you herewith a surrender of all claim to a right of search [illegible] by me on the twenty seventh of September last and located at Big Glace Bay Lake; and I remain,

Sir,
Very respectfully yours.
Benj. Smith Lyman.

Bear Bay, C.B., 15 July, 1864.

Joseph H. Comeau Esq.
Arichat.

Dear Sir,

Since I last wrote you [illegible] ordering the Arichat Bank [illegible] any claims against the Estate of [illegible] I have put agents there [illegible] and instructed them [illegible]. I congratulate you on getting the Mill ground [illegible] you [illegible] time for [illegible].

I was at Big Glace Bay at Breakfast [illegible] Bear Bay [illegible] Bay [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

responsibility of buying one somewhere. It would also be well enough to have some strap iron rails [illegible] on edge as they must be got sooner or later; but they can do without [illegible] for the present and use a wooden track. I shall [illegible] there again soon.

I had to ride towards Little Glace Bay to find Sandy (for [illegible]) and was tempted to spend the night [illegible] of [illegible] cooking; but I [illegible] and Parrott were [illegible] and Potatoes for the purpose of [illegible] stockholders meeting the next day. I found [illegible] his son and Mr Emery and [illegible] examining the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] yours.

[illegible]

[illegible] through the Mercantile Coal [illegible] [illegible] fifteen [illegible]

[illegible]

Cow Bay, Cape Breton N.S. 17 July 1864.

Prof. John Page

University of Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir

You need, a Cute Hitch as last winter that for one we [illegible] I Patent Screws appointed to investigate the merits of the Metric System in the United States of a decimal system of weights and measures, I [illegible] for [illegible] and if in doing so I only [illegible] the settlement of this [illegible] end I [illegible] make this, I trust you will pardon me in consideration of [illegible] as a [illegible], my [illegible] that there [illegible] decimal system [illegible] established.

In the first place [illegible] for a unit for the new system [illegible] should afford an easy means of converting the present measures into the new. Now there unit as any [illegible] even a decimal system would, as it makes for the most hundred part [illegible] millions of our measures in daily use [illegible] as well as in books will have to be made for more frequently and by a far greater number of people than in a system of foreign measures [illegible] as also by writers and speakers and readers of foreign books. However, there remains [illegible] decimal system.

I propose then for a unit the Link or one hundredth part of a Surveyors Chain of eight and feet which belongs to the only decimal system of measures [illegible] decimal division and [illegible]

Lineal Measure.

1 Mile = 10 Furlongs = 100 Chains.
1 Chain = 10 Fathoms = 10 Saxon Lachter old established = 100 Links.
1 Link (= 2 Hands) = 10 Fingers = 100 Lines.

Superficial or Land Measure.

1 Square Mile = 100 Square Furlongs = 1000 Acres.
1 Acre = 100 Square Fathoms = 10 000 Square Links.
1 Square Link = 100 Square Fingers = 10 000 Square Lines.

Measures of Capacity for both Liquids and Solids.

1 Chaldron = 10 [illegible] = 100 [illegible]. (New Measure)
144 ± packs of coal = 1 Chaldron. 10 packs of flour = 1 Barrel. } (Present
A Bag of coffee, of hops or of East Indian Rice [illegible] } Measure.
1 Peck = 10 Quarts (or Pints) = 100 Gills = 1000 Cubic Fingers (Thimbles) } (Present
= 1 Cubic Link, the unit = 8 cubic decimetres } Measure
= $\frac{8}{9}$ of the present peck.

Weights.

1 Ton = 10 Quintals = 100 Stone. (New weights)
= $\frac{4}{5}$ of the present ton = 10 × 176 lbs. (Present weight)
1 Stone = 100 X = 100 000 Grains = 1 Cubic Link of water } (Present density in many [illegible])
= 176 lbs = 100 × [illegible] oz. [illegible] } = 123,210 Grains. (Present weight)
= 100 × 2,5 oz. Troy

For the weight marked X I find no convenient in use; but as it is about the weight of a suitable pebble, [illegible] (say as big as a piece of chalk) it might be called Pebble after the analogy of Stone.

These measures of capacity and weight have not the exception of grains been comparatively little used in exact measurements, so that a small change in them [illegible] a new name would give rise to no great inconvenience. There are especially, at present, so many Stones and [illegible] and Tons and also Fathoms in use [illegible]

[illegible] same [illegible] of the [illegible] provincial English [illegible] might be [illegible] sufficient [illegible] for [illegible] given.

[illegible] be held upon the [illegible] or [illegible], and [illegible] was [illegible] weight [illegible] same [illegible] the [illegible] should [illegible] be about the [illegible]

[illegible] of 2240 lbs each.

[illegible] a system [illegible] [illegible] the Board [illegible] the Board [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

the affair very portable and very successful as copying [illegible] that I have got the knack of copying, and it seems as [illegible] to use successfully from the ordinary heavy iron [illegible] perhaps less as [illegible]. Please make a memorandum of [illegible] and send the machine by express to [illegible] Whiteman, No. 72 Beaver Street, New York for [illegible] send [illegible] a copying book [illegible].

P.S. I hope you are very chary of giving information about the run of the coals down here to people who pay nothing for it. I am not sure but Bourinot or myself will find still good chances to speculate in coal claims. At any rate I have no sympathy but a great contempt for these petty speculators who hope by an outlay of twenty dollars in money and of nothing in brains to get a fortune with the help of information got through the enterprise of more liberal minded speculators or operators.

By the way I saw at Bellaire's office in New York a [illegible] of your map for Adams of New York of this region. Bourinot saw he saw at the office of the International four copies on stout paper, apparently not tracings of a map of yours of all this coal [illegible] in [illegible] Mice Bay & Big Bras d'Or, copies that were sent from Halifax.

B. S. L.

Cow Bay, C. B. 18 July, 1864.

Marshall Bonnet Esq.
Arichat.

Dear Sir,

I regret that I have nothing of special interest to communicate in regard to the coal borings. They go on apparently as slowly as when you were here. A bit broke again [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] one of the holes near Duncan Morrison's field. Mr. Smith says the iron of the bits is very badly burnt by unskilful blacksmithing, and we both think it very desirable to get some fresh iron and steel for them. He says the steel would be got here; but could you not bring or send out from Sydney some iron and perhaps steel too. Mr. Smith says he would like at least three feet of round [illegible] iron. He was quite in despair at the breaking of the bit, and said he had never before come across such an unlucky bit of ground for him as the neighborhood of the field. The hole that was digging [illegible] when you went away on the slope [illegible] out as deep without [illegible] that it had to be abandoned as useless and they were boring when the bit broke in the former hole above the field with the expectation of having to bore deep bits as it was already begun, of saving them as compared with digging a new hole. A hole [illegible] begun and bored to the depth of twenty days feet at [illegible] but I took them from it today as soon as they had [illegible] [illegible] at a new hole near McRuer's stable, for I hope the boring of this hole will decide a point that will be an [illegible] [illegible] in regard to the other holes. For I find that the [illegible] of the McKinley Coal given by the boring on it would make the [illegible] opened in front of McRuer's dirty feet below the Spencer Bed; or that this McKinley Coal must be either the lower part of the Spencer Bed [illegible] [illegible] distance or else the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a very thin bed some seventy [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Spencer. I believe [illegible]

regularity in that matter might not suffer I got with my own pocket money the needful change at Mackenzie's and Holmes and the men were paid as usual. The consequence was that I had no little money by five pounds to pay for the mare and I borrowed that from Mackenzie on the representation that you would probably come out this week and help me to repay him. I shall have no more money to pay the men next Saturday, so, if you are not coming yourself perhaps you will arrange some way for my getting the necessary money. If you come yourself, pray see if you cannot bring out some small change from Sydney.

I hope that your wife and child as well as yourself are in good health; and I remain

Very truly yours

Benj. Smith Lyman

P.S. A case of six bottles of Claret arrived here by the post last week, and was very acceptable. I only discovered the fact of its being here just as the former supply was giving out.

B. S. L.

Cow Bay C.B. 18 July 1866.

David McKeen Esq.
Principal Deputy Surveyor,
Sydney.

Dear Sir,

I have today received Mr. Young's reply of the eighth instant to my letter inquiring about the transit. He excuses himself from not having written sooner on the plunge sickness. He says he has promised to take in not an order until he has finished some work that ought to have been finished long ago, and that it may take a month yet. He says too: "The constantly increasing price of wages and materials will of itself prevent me from taking orders to be completed in two, three or four months to come. That I may be able to do then, I cannot now say, but it appears that instruments then as well as other things will be higher."

I am very sorry that I have nothing more satisfactory to communicate as the result of my inquiries.

I am thinking of trying to get my solar compass repaired here by the help of Charly Carmichael. In case I should, I should be happy to show it to you in use. I made a rather rough approximation to the determination of the variation of the magnetic needle with it this afternoon, and found the variation to be about twenty five degrees and a half, apparently a few minutes more.

I trust you have by this time received an order to survey the lot of land I applied for. For my part I have heard nothing from Halifax about it.

Very truly yours,
Benj. Smith Lyman

Cape Ray, C. B., 16 July 1864.

Dear James,

Enclosed I send you a first bill of exchange for $415 [illegible] drawn by me at three days sight on Rule Edward that sum being the balance of my money in his hands. The bill is made payable to your order. I wish you to make use of the money in procuring, if that amount is sufficient a representative recruit such as I see by the papers can be enlisted at the present time. I should prefer that the re be a colored man, and if possible one personally known to you as a trustworthy man. I fully expect to send you within a few days, say a week another [illegible] of five hundred dollars, greenbacks, to be applied to a like purpose or the same, if the present amount is not enough for one recruit. If you should make some arrangement with the men forgiving them the bonus in the form of monthly instalments to their families, you can so far rely upon my intention of sending you the second draft as to engage the men right away, for the money I intend to send, is already due me and was voluntarily promised me a few days ago by Mr. Bu[illegible] who furnished me in the form of such a draft within a few days. Money is also due me from Bellone. In case however anything unforeseen should [illegible], I am confident that either Uncle Edward or Uncle Joe would bear [illegible] in my engagements to that amount. I intend to furnish you in this way a round thousand dollars and if you can so employ it as to secure the two recruits and have a hundred dollars over, you can become a [illegible] of the [illegible] and I desire you to do so, and as a member of [illegible] the most radical politics that your conscience will allow. I wish the first recruit when you come to stand as your representative, and the second as mine, and [illegible]

both be for three years, if possible. Don't fancy that I think laid in this way under any obligation to me, for I do not. I merely wish to bear a share of the burdens of the country, and feel able to do at least this much considering my good fortune this year and the fact that I have done nothing hitherto but talk. I consider, however, that I serve the world and our country better, by working in my profession than in taking up the military profession so foreign to my taste and education. It is only lately that a volunteer engineer corps has I believe been formed, and such an organization has been what I have most desired, for my own part, in the army. I prefer to have you represented by a recruit to having myself so, because you are much more likely to be drafted than I, and with a representative it remains, I believe, optional for anyone to serve under the draft. — I have this evening only just learned by the papers that a [illegible] raid has been made into Maryland. I hope this may make recruits easier to be procured.

Your letter of the nineteenth last came to hand on the first and was very acceptable. The [illegible] came by the preceding mail; and the Evening Post comes regularly twice a week, by each mail, and is a source of great enjoyment to me. I am much obliged to you for the trouble [illegible] things gave you.

I am very sorry you could not come and help me in my work and give me the pleasure of your society. I shall probably have a month's job after this survey is done down here and very likely smaller ones enough to keep me here late in the fall.

I am very good to them again about the Crouches. I didn't know they were in America. Please remember me very affectionately to them when you next see them.

Please drop me a line on receipt of this. I think you in advance very heartily for the trouble these requests of mine will give you, but I hope the inconvenience will not be serious.

Very affectionately yours, [illegible]

Cow Bay, Cape Breton, d. 8, [illegible] July 18[illegible].

Exchange $415 [illegible]/100.

Three days after sight of this First bill of exchange (Second of same tenor and date unpaid) pay to the order of James F. Lyman, four hundred and fifteen dollars and thirty seven cents, United States Currency, value received, and place the same with or without further advice to the account of

Benj. [illegible] Lyman.

To E. H. R. Lyman [illegible]
[illegible]

1883

Cow Bay, C. B. 20 July, 1864.

Dear Mary,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th inst. from [illegible] and from Lizzie & Virginia Vail and from Lodisy Lee, one of the 4th of June, and one of the 4th of July written on the 5th. I have also received Mother's letter of the 6th of June, [illegible] and the two other big envelopes [illegible]. I am very glad you did not think that I came [illegible] I am glad that your health is better and [illegible] I am afraid you would have been [illegible] when you did get [illegible] I would have [illegible] for [illegible] I am glad that you [illegible] I suppose [illegible] I suppose [illegible] and studying their characters and peculiarities [illegible] if you found no friends I am sure [illegible] I am sure you will soon find [illegible] different from mine, for such people are [illegible] all the world that no village [illegible] but [illegible] of them; what [illegible] opinion of [illegible] I was [illegible] Hopes [illegible] many villages in the west of this County and if your suggestion that I might find a [illegible] counties some [illegible] women [illegible] I shall. I thank [illegible] Miss [illegible] and [illegible] one of the accounts of the battle and [illegible] I [illegible] than I came [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible]. Although [illegible] I am much [illegible] and dignity [illegible] my admiration. But I

had not the pleasure of becoming better acquainted with her. As for men I found two or three very excellent ones in the neighborhood of Los Angeles, in the garrison at Wilmington where I shent my work in Camp. To return to Sydney I have not only found two or three agreeable people there but I have no doubt I might find young ladies there charming enough to fall desperately in love with. Instead of "young ladies" I should perhaps rather say a young lady. But I have not been in Sydney since my arrival here so you can imagine how firm my conviction is in regard to their or her charms unless you ascribe my staying away to deliberate caution.

My only new acquaintance of late among the females is a pretty little bay mare that I bought last Saturday and I find she improves upon acquaintance. I am more more made [illegible] effort to learn to ride horseback in going to and from my [illegible] work in the field. This pony is a very lively light creature, [illegible] skittish and an easy [illegible] gluesh goes fast, very kind, [illegible] and in mind and limb. Thirteen hands and three quarters [illegible] at the monstrous sum of fifty two dollars. [illegible] I expect [illegible] to go out Sydney [illegible] in a complete house and staff very [illegible] [illegible] of Sundays. I may also go over to [illegible] [illegible] Sunday now and then.

I am not, as you seem to suppose, in my last summer [illegible] but a mile and three quarters up the bay from where I lived with Bellair last fall. There is a colliery between this and that, called the Gavrie Mines own by Thomas D. and Blowers [illegible] held very important men in this country, especially the former. Powers manages the colliery and lives next door to where I live. Bellair's colliery is called the Blockhouse Mine and the village [illegible] mines is called the Blockhouse.

My work is much the same as it was last year, partly surveying and partly directing borings for coal, but unlike last year there is a man under me in charge of the borings and overseer of the six or eight men connected with that part of

[illegible] I have [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

and by fine cooking again on the occasion of my [illegible] a Sunday over then a fortnight [illegible] weeks ago when the [illegible] were down here. It was she you remember who learned so readily last fall to cook mushrooms in various styles, and to make [illegible] omelette aux confitures. The [illegible] however [illegible] cook almost everything already. She gets the enormous wages of three dollars a month [illegible] dollar extra because she is so far from Sydney [illegible] she would have thirty dollars [illegible], equally [illegible] [illegible] would stand [illegible] [illegible] are so [illegible].

I shall [illegible] have a month's job [illegible] with the present one, and perhaps some other small ones had are talked of, and it is not very unlikely that I remain [illegible] until sometime in the fall perhaps late.

I am sorry that you did not [illegible] [illegible]. Sunborn was at Dr. Munkes. I should think my [illegible] she was to go there [illegible] about the first of June and [illegible] such dates are generally agreed upon beforehand so [illegible] some certainty attach to them, would have led you to [illegible] some inquiries before the first of July.

With love to all, I am as always

Your affectionate Brother,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay, C.B., 21 July, 1864.

Dear James:

I am not very well posted with what is going on in the States and it is only since I wrote you the other day that I have noticed in the papers that a recent law of Congress obliges the President to give sixty days notice of a draft and that during that time the government pays a bounty of a hundred dollars a year to volunteers and I suppose also to representative recruits, about whom I wrote. I do not know whether such a sixty days notice of a draft been given or not; and if it has not it seems to me better to delay carrying out the plan I proposed of engaging one or two representative recruits until such a notice is given so as to have the government bounty added to ours, for we may otherwise be able to obtain hardly a single recruit. You may however if you have no objections or your own judgement in the matter, if you have not already made any definite arrangements.

When I spoke of Uncle Edward's or Uncle Joe's being willing no doubt to bear a part in any engagement I should make through you, I meant of course only temporarily [illegible], in case of any delay in my getting what is already due me. I should prefer [illegible] to be called on for [illegible] knowing when the money may come when such a favor may be a serious burden, and I [illegible] you will not plan as in a position to need to call for it until something [illegible] is [illegible] I am confident that I shall send you a draft for five hundred dollars next a week.

I send herewith the second bill of exchange for $41 corresponding to the first I sent the other day.

Your affectionate brother.

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Conway, P.B., 22 July, 1866.

Dear Bourinot;

Your letter of the sixteenth came to hand on the twentieth; and I hope you have received before this mine of the eighteenth.

Mr. Smith is going to send Archie McLellan into town tomorrow to get some shingles for the new stable, and I take the opportunity of dropping you a line. If you consider it desirable to pay the men at noon on Saturday night you might send out the money and change by Archie to Mr. Smith or to myself, for Archie will be out here again before the men stop work. Something like fifty four dollars will be required, as I believe no time has been lost the week by bad weather and there are nine men. Peter however has not worked every day.

If convenient too I should be glad to have Archie bring out my clothes that are lying ready made at McLennan's, and would be obliged to you if you would pay for them forty four dollars. I am quite out of money myself on account of paying the men last week. I should be glad too to have five pounds so as to settle my debt with McKenzie out here. I want Archie to bring me out some oats tomorrow, and if he has too little money to pay for them, please give him some.

I am sorry to have to bother you about so many little affairs, and thank you in advance for the trouble they will give you.

Please remember me to your [illegible] and [illegible] yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay, C.B., 22 July, 1864.

P. S. Hamilton Esq.

Chief Commissioner of Mines,

Halifax.

Sir,

Your favor of the fifteenth [illegible] hand, stating that a small portion of the [illegible] for on the [illegible] of Mary had previously been granted to another. I certainly desire, as you presume, that my application should hold good for the remainder; and I was fully in the belief that my original application for the right contained, at the end of the general description of the area of five square miles, the [illegible] such portions of the same as may already be granted to others."

Trusting that you will forward me the license at your early convenience, I have the honor to remain

Very respectfully yours,

Benj. Sarah Lyman.

Camp Bay C.T., 22 July 1864.

[illegible]

[illegible] Colorado [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

but fancy to account with him something [illegible] question here. The coal lands and coal mining rights are not sold together as in Pennsylvania. The government has never relinquished its claims to the right of mining coal as well as other minerals here, except for limited periods as leases, and all such leases expire in 1886. Mr. [illegible] might purchase such leases from parties who hold them and no doubt good ones are still to be had. I wrote him on an [illegible] to his letter, as I mentioned to you, and at the same time sent him a copy of the Nevada Mining Laws.

It must be delightful to live as you do in [illegible] Ripleys and Simmonses. I am [illegible] that Mrs. Ripleys general health remains so good, and that she is [illegible] to have [illegible] added to the [illegible] [illegible]. I send you herewith some sprigs of [illegible] bush that I picked, the smaller one near Virginia City, Nevada Territory (Nevada) and the larger ones at Great Salt Lake City, thinking that the [illegible] [illegible] they might be of interest [illegible] and perhaps also [illegible]. I call such a [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] herbarium [illegible] Territory and [illegible] [illegible], since there are apparently only three or four [illegible] plants in these countries and these comparatively rare ones. It grows as a [illegible] [illegible] or three feet high, and has on the ground the same dry dust, look that these sprigs have. A dry sandy soil with nothing but these sage bushes for hundreds of miles is a picture of desolation, but it does not indicate in reality a bad soil; only water is lacking to bring good crops, and that is got by irrigation at Salt Lake City and elsewhere in Mormondom, and might be got over millions of acres that are now deserts.

There are many plants very abundant down here that are comparatively rare with you. A few weeks ago the roads were lined with the rhodora in bloom; it was every where in the greatest profusion and so common as to be little thought of here. It came about [illegible] soon as the trailing arbutus disappeared, and that was in bloom [illegible] [illegible] arrival here. Before the rhodora went out

in quick time, not so quick of course coming [illegible] if I go a courting. It is quite an event for me to [illegible] a horse; she cost the enormous sum of fifty two dollars, from which you can imagine the dearness of good horses here. I am bent upon learning to ride horseback at least [illegible] well, but have still much to learn. I think I shall [illegible] to Glen Bay next Sunday, about ten miles or [illegible].

I am very sorry I was not at Northampton [illegible] self this summer while your wife was there to show her more attention than my request seemed to have drawn from my relatives here. I should not only like to have [illegible] her [illegible] have shown her some of the pleasant walks and drives of the place, its various villages, manufacturing and farming and Mount Holyoke and Tom. By the way I believe you have never been on Mount Holyoke; you have lost [illegible] a charming landscape you have [illegible]; and [illegible] from Mt. Tom is perhaps as good. I am sorry the [illegible] has done your wife no good, and hope that Clark's [illegible] will benefit her more.

Give her my best regards, and believe [illegible]

Very affectionately

Benj. [illegible]

Cow Bay, C. B., 25 July, 1864.

C. H. Harrington, Esq.
Sydney.

Dear Sir;

I have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt on Saturday evening through Mr. Bellair of your favor of the twenty third enclosing ninety dollars and an order on Mr. Galen Holmes for [illegible] dollars; and I remain

Respectfully yours,
Benj. Smith Esq.

Cow Bay, C. B., 25 July, 1864

My dear Dennis.

Your favor of the twenty first instant reached me on Saturday, and gave me a much pleasure.

You have very likely heard that another bit broke Saturday morning just as I arrived with my letter to you at the boring on McRury's stable. The hole was in perfect good condition this time and it was considered demonstrated by this accident that the chisels had got into such a condition that they were incapable of bearing the weight of the rods in a hole thirty five or forty feet deep. Mr. Smith sent by McLellan for a couple of chisels from your Sydney blacksmith Coleman; and McLellan brought out one of them on Saturday evening. Coleman promised to send out the other on Monday (today) by the post; but for some reason the chisel has not come. If you are in Sydney tomorrow pray [illegible] up Mr. Coleman, and if possible bring out the chisel with you if you come soon, or else send it. I understand too that Mr. Coleman promised to send out two more new ones. I may [illegible] Mr. Coleman himself a line on the matter by tomorrow's [illegible] that your return to Sydney may be unexpectedly delayed.

Owing to this accident in the bore hole at the stable only about a dozen feet from where I had intended at any rate to give up the hole, the men were set to boring in the old hole dug out but never bored by Archibald near the stable; and today they have bored through a foot and a half of coal there at the depth of twenty three feet. It seems uncertain whether this should be the upper part of the Spencer Bed or McRury's bed the lower, or whether this bed of today may not be the lower part of the Spencer Bed and the upper part fifteen or twenty feet above it in the position that an [illegible] correspondence of strike with the Mammoth Bed would indicate. To determine this point I am going to let them finish tomorrow

a short hole they have begun a hundred feet up hill from the hole of [illegible].

[illegible] absence of exposures of coal or rock within a distance of [illegible] two miles along the [illegible] adds very much to the difficulties of our explorations. Although the boring in the Macauley Bed [illegible] average strike of that bed up to that point [illegible] this [illegible] necessarily indicate the precise position of the [illegible] for the intervening beds of sandstone may in that distance have become essentially thicker, or their strike may be different owing to a more rapid curving round to the north of the Macauley Bed near the middle of the basin. Things are in such train now, however, that I hope to see these points soon settled definitely.

I am looking forward with much pleasure to the enjoyment again of your society out here. These solitary evenings I have turned greatly to account in the way of letter-writing, and my correspondence has now got into such shape as to look for a time quite manageable.

Very truly yours,

[illegible]

Carlisle Pa. 8 Aug 1864

[illegible]

[illegible] five hundred dollars [illegible] Brevet by [illegible] Adjt Genl [illegible] Blank [illegible] Secretary [illegible] I have [illegible] by Brevet and I [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Cow Bay Cape Breton, Nov. 5 Aug. 1864.

John C. Fremont Esquire
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Marshall Brennan for whom I am making a geological exploration of four degrees of search for land near the head of Cow Bay, desires me to inquire of you if he could [illegible] to visit this region for the purpose of examining the capabilities of Table Bay Bend and Lake in the [illegible] of Table Bay for the construction of an artificial harbor. We have as yet bored upon only one of two or three workable coal beds that we confidently expect to find in large body upon the [illegible] and should be glad to [illegible] your earliest convenience on what terms and at what time you could come, as that [illegible] an a sufficient completion of our survey [illegible] definitely with you perhaps by telegraph.

We will be [illegible] your [illegible] friends Professor Lesley of Philadelphia and Joseph H. Converse of Boston for any information you may desire respecting us.

Very respectfully yours
[illegible]

Carrsb. [illegible] 3 Aug 1864

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

hint of his intending to go, but the story has spread within [illegible] and seems to be true. I am sorry for the Boston [illegible], but handy for Poole that he is going.

I am very glad to have in your letter your ideas about marrying, although I did not intend to ask for them, especially in the form of advice, for I had already made up my mind on the subject in general. I thought you might be able to suggest some individual with whom I might fall in love with some prospect of success. As you advise, I would not cease to marry without falling in love, but this is a condition only too easy to be fulfilled, and the last perhaps to be thought of. As for marrying when you fall in love, which you advise, it is very easy to talk of. I took another look last Sunday at the fair young Chance in Sydney, and I find I can probably do without her. In fact I don't think I should break my heart if I found nobody to suit me, although I think the Odeon of doing so are rapidly diminishing in spite of your thinking that you succeeded first at the age of thirty.

I have bought me a nice little saddle horse, and find it very convenient. I rode it into Sydney last Saturday afternoon and morning to do so again tomorrow. I passed a very pleasant Sunday there. Captain Parrott and Mr. Morton were at Miss Rigby's. The former [illegible] means gently as any sucking dove, although he looked savage at first. Mr. Morton was quite attentive to me Monday morning after Capt. Parrott's departure. Ward inquired particularly after you. I dined Sunday at the Macquarie's whose [illegible] very much. I went to the English church in the morning with the Bowmans, and found the performances entertaining. There was a bride there, and there was a pretty girl in the choir in the crowly opened chancel that was anxious to get a look at the sight. Charly Clark also in the choir in the chancel looked right jolly and [illegible]. Capt. Parrott further back in the church looked like a clark thunderclad.

We have found no more coal yet and the survey seems likely to hang on some weeks yet.

Very affectionately yours Benj. Smith Lyman

Cow Bay, C.B. 13 Aug. 18[illegible]

P. S. Hamilton Esquire,
Chief Commissioner of Mines
Halifax.

Sir,

I return you herewith the license received from you yesterday to enter upon the coal claim at Cow Bay, since [illegible] through an oversight on the selection of the proper blank that is a license to work mineral and not to search as applied for.

I beg you to return me the proper license, and with regret at having to trouble you so often about this affair, I remain

Sir,

Very respectfully yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

[illegible]

Dear Lizzie;

Your letter of the twenty third of May was very acceptable and I have long been meaning to answer it immediately. I have now to acknowledge the receipt of Father's letter of the eighteenth of August on the first of August, and of Mother's of the first of August to day. That first of August seems to have been a very hot day with you in the States; here the second of August was the hottest day remembered for many years. I was out in the woods surveying and in the afternoon was very much affected by the heat and by thirst, and had to retire to a farm house for a while and drink water and milk and sit in a draft. In spite of the heat there was a strong breeze blowing from the westward. I noticed last year that sometimes Boston and Cape Breton had the same weather on the same days in a remarkable manner, considering the distance of six hundred miles.

The last three Sundays I have spent in Sydney, riding in there Saturday evening and except this last time riding out here again on Monday morning. Yesterday, Sunday, I rode from Sydney out to Glace Bay and spent the Night there. They are opening the coal on one of the [illegible] at Glace Bay that Mr. Lesley and I surveyed last [illegible] and I am so far keeping an oversight of the opening as to visit it and give directions once in a couple of weeks or so. I find few opportunities of going there except on Sundays. In Sydney I have passed the time very pleasantly in general on Sundays. The first of these Sundays I dined at the MacGreevens' and the next Sunday at Mr. Bourinots, the father of my present employer.

It really seems doubtful whether I get back to the States before the end of the fall. Mr. Marshall Bourinot has become interested in another coal claim that will probably add a little to the time required for our explorations; and our borings have not so far been very successful although we have one good coal already. The Claims are so situated as to be pretty difficult to explore satisfactorily.

Cow Bay C. B. 15 Aug. 18[illegible].

My dear Mr. Lesley:

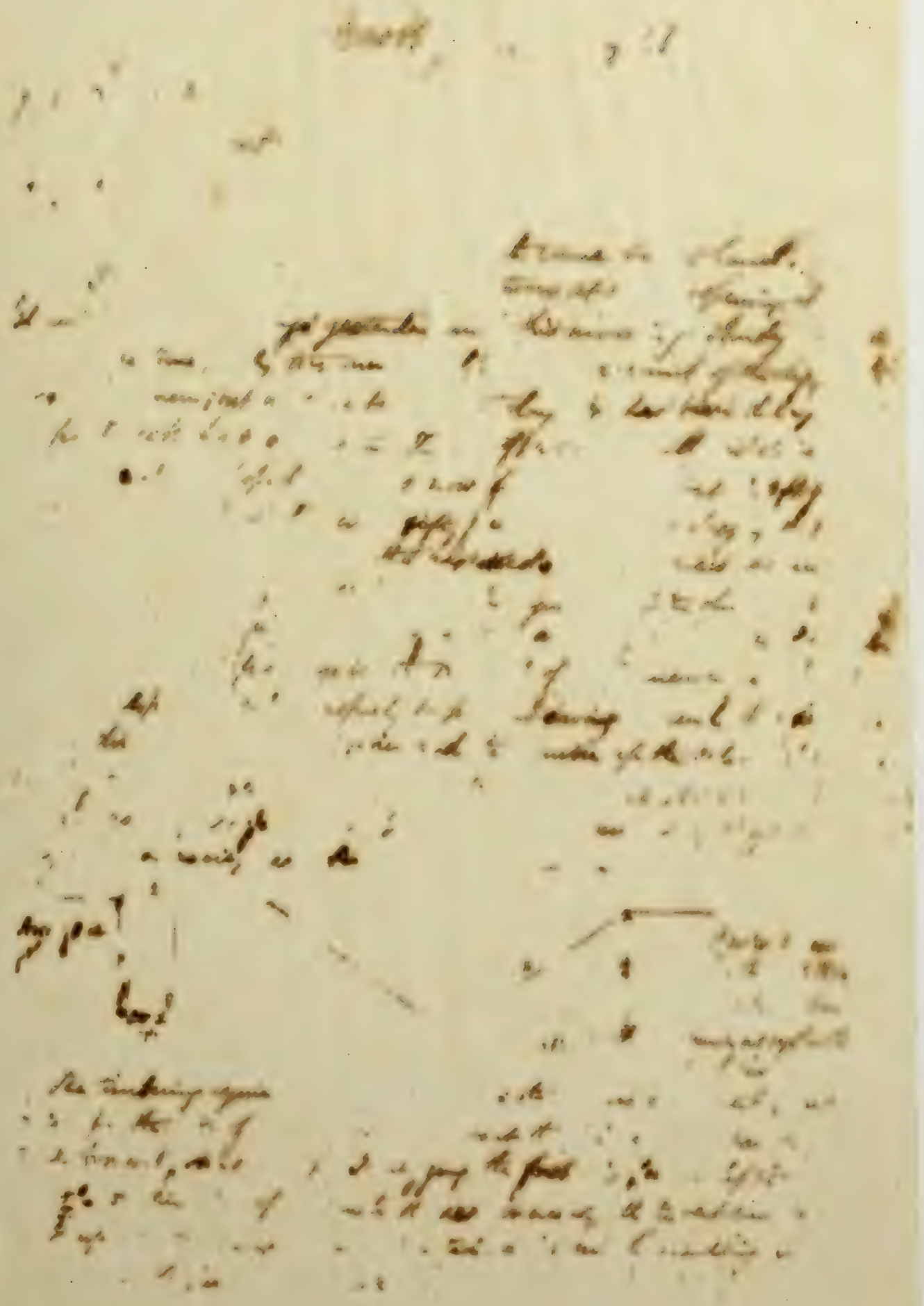
Yours of the Nineteenth has come to day. I am glad your business is still so prosperous and sorry that it is fatiguing you so much. Perhaps you will go back to it fresh after your trip to Northfield.

I think you misunderstood what I said about the copies of a map from Halifax in the possession of the International Co. I took them to be copies of the Adams map, but fancy now that they were copies of Hendrys' maps on which he had put down after you and me your views in regard to the coal maps far outside the limits of those leases and claims of which you were obliged to furnish maps to the government. One of these International copies I saw last week at Sydney and it looks very much like the Adams map, and I complained to Mother that no credit was given to you in the title. He said he knew nothing about the authorship, and had had the impression that it was Hendrys.

I know nothing of Beaver; but it seems to me that a Pennsylvania Farm School could hardly persuade a geologist to remain with them who by living for a time in California has got so good a chance at the big salaries that Whitney thanks of. San Francisco is in many respects pleasanter to live in than any town or city in Pennsylvania not excepting the largest and is especially agreeable it would seem to those who have lived there a time. Still every one there seems to look forward to a return to the East as an escape from a [illegible] [illegible].

Will you be so kind as to pay Mr. Samuel Barbolt twenty five dollars for my first quarters rent, and charge it to me. It is due I think in the early third of August or thereabouts, and I should have written about it sooner.

My charge of $200 gold for the reconnaissance of a right of search is only about in proportion to my present salary. I do not mean to charge less at present especially because I feel very indifferent about receiving any more orders. Mr. Gould has written me nothing further, and I hear a Mr. Hunt is going to visit Mich to examine a [illegible] for somebody in Cambridge.



Govt of Sydney has given Bonaparte half interest in his Right of Pre-
centing on Wetgrattin to Brook at the Cow Bay and Sydney Road, in return
for exploring it. That will detain me here somewhat longer. Our boring has
not been very successful of late and we do not find yet the Good
Coal. We are so far from any expense that the difficulty of the exploration
is much increased.

I have today gehold of Brown's section of the coal measures
at Sydney communicated in 1847 to the London Geological Journal. By
inquiring I found that Poole had an old presentation copy of the paper and
he hunted it up for me. I am much interested in comparing it with
our sections, and expect to produce astonishing development from it.
If I have leisure next winter I should like to publish a comparison
of these sections.

I had a pleasant talk with Poole last evening. He expects to get
away by the middle of September. He goes in disgust at his treatment
as I suggested in my last; but Brook told represent in Sydney that it
is because Poole is offered 50 pounds a month in Newfoundland
against five hundred here; but this is much the best because
permanent, and Poole would undoubtedly think so. I think, however,
he will not be long without a permanent place, for two or three parties
are after him here.

I rode into Sydney on Saturday as on the two preceding Saturday
but came out yesterday, Sunday to Glace Bay in the evening, and
post the new Converse opening home again this morning.

I will to catch the mail and will give you the sketch you
ask for another time.

Very affectionately yours.

Benj. Smith Lyman

[illegible], C.R., 15 Aug. 184[illegible].

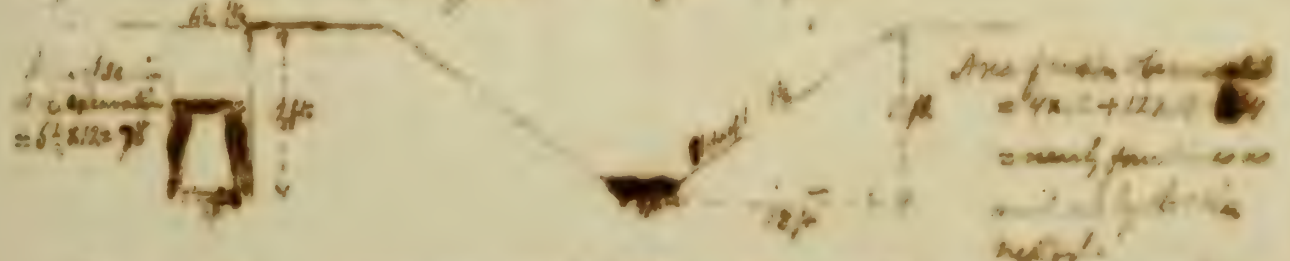
J. H. Converse Esq.

[illegible].

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the second instant [illegible] duly received.

Since writing last I have been twice at the new [illegible] Bay, three weeks [illegible] this morning. [illegible] has had most of the [illegible] to help him on [illegible] of finding [illegible] the [illegible] delayed by the [illegible] weather. [illegible] as could be [illegible], and [illegible] 350 ft from the shore and partially [illegible]. He [illegible] the bottom of the drain very level, and [illegible] in [illegible] it although [illegible] very small [illegible] at the beginning of the drain. At 350 ft from the shore the digging is about ten feet deep and at four hundred [illegible] feet. It would therefore [illegible] amount of [illegible] the sides [illegible] to dig down with straight sides and [illegible] and at the height of about six feet put on a scoop upon which [illegible] can be thrown [illegible] dig further on. The saving in the amount of digging in this way will be [illegible] from a rough diagram.



[illegible] no great labor as the wood is cut close by and must be cut for [illegible] clearing a space [illegible] the [illegible] mouth for [illegible] the [illegible] from the drift. In digging [illegible] six feet in depth [illegible] be [illegible] thrown back [illegible] the timbering already [illegible] handling [illegible] handwork [illegible] work. I found [illegible]

begun to timber in this way, for say fifty feet, but he had made it too narrow, hardly three feet wide. I would be worth the additional trouble to make it wide enough to admit a coal wagon, it seems to me; although it is not likely that the coal will be brought out through this part of the drain, because it will be more convenient to rise to the surface nearer to the water level of the coal and save distance. I have told him to leave for the present the timbering he has done as it is but to make the rest wider so as to admit a horse and coal wagon, say four feet wide by six high. He had on one place come rock on the bottom, but is past that and he fancies he has the underlay of the coal at the bottom of the drain at present. He finds orange small bits of coal, but is still probably some distance from where he will find the solid bed. He can advance with the present system and with three helpers some days as much as twelve feet but probably not average that, and [illegible] [illegible] he has to dig from the surface down, as he will [illegible] again. I fear therefore that it will be quite impossible to certify to the opening of the coal by the first of September.

If you would get for me of the Stationer Fairbanks a quire of such letting paper as the small piece I enclose and bring it with you to Halifax and send it to me from there by steamer or otherwise you would very greatly oblige me. I have used much more of this paper than I expected to this year in consequence of my surveying being so widespread.

I remain, Sir,

Very respectfully yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman

Lowe Bay, C.B. 27 Aug 1864

James Frost Esq.

Sydney.

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to inform you that there is no probability whatever of the existence of a workable coal bed within your Right of Search between this and Sydney; so that there is no object in taking out a Licence to work. Considering this and the fact of my having important affairs to attend there, I feel justified in keeping you in suspense a day or two longer by not going to Sydney on Thursday to tell you that nothing was to be done.

Very respectfully yours

Roy [illegible]

Dunedin, 2nd Aug 1861.

My dear Brother

News of the war-vessel [illegible] reached us yesterday evening, and
[illegible] I have [illegible] to write to you, as the [illegible]
[illegible] by the [illegible] leaves this [illegible] I was just the middle of mail
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

[illegible]

Sydney, 27 Aug. 1864.

[illegible]

Sydney.

[illegible]

[illegible] forward [illegible] telegram to [illegible] Newton regarding. If you happen to [illegible] [illegible] which it is this telegram [illegible] friend Mr. [illegible] [illegible]

I have [illegible] to-day out on the [illegible] [illegible] miles and will call on you this evening [illegible] telegram.

[illegible]

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Sydney, A. M. 29 Aug. 1864.

[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Benj. Smith Lyman.

[illegible] 29 Aug. 1864.

To James [illegible] Esq.

Collector's Office No. 23 Broadway New York

[illegible] in New York. [illegible]

Benj. Smith Lyman

Sydney, [illegible] 29 Aug. 1864

To [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] letter by mail, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Sydney 7th August 18

My dear Comrie,

I would have started night before last & would
have left you [illegible] date, and wrote [illegible] telegraphed. [illegible]
[illegible] this morning, and received your answer this morning. The
"Star Hotel" is just [illegible] Bourke. Since they were being [illegible]
went away. I forgot to tell in the telegram about [illegible] claim being [illegible]
and you will have got my letter before now. If there is [illegible]
telegraph again. The Assistant Chief Engineer of Navigation [illegible]
[illegible] the Government, said he [illegible] and told him [illegible]
[illegible] away [illegible] claim, and asked for my opinion of this way
of [illegible] the [illegible] question. He said he was in [illegible] with
you in regard [illegible] and that you had just been [illegible] by telegram
[illegible] and [illegible] you could have a position in regard to the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] and take me this opinion and also to [illegible] claim
[illegible] [illegible] possibly [illegible] [illegible] in [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] reason for [illegible] [illegible] that the Government
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] claim and
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

go out there some night within a day or two perhaps tomorrow to see how they are getting on, and return the next morning.

I am too tired this evening to write. It has just occurred to me that I have neglected to go and thank your father for the wine he was so kind as to send down to me the other day. The French Steamer Adriatic is here and forms quite an interesting object of view from my window at the Rectory. The Bishop & his sister are here. The latter made an effort to come to me yesterday afternoon and gave me a tract to read. The last year of a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a few pious, [illegible] intended [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] disagreeable to me. I received them in silence [illegible] [illegible] of my religious opinions would probably [illegible] [illegible] as here did me. She seems highly [illegible] [illegible] and bigoted. Her brother goes through his religious ceremonies (I attended family prayers last night) in a business like manner & free style, and the very little that I have seen of him only at [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a good thing in a business way of his position. Very likely I do him injustice but it is curious to observe [illegible] what a man's appearance and manner produces at first sight. He was [illegible] at the [illegible] and at the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] all day. Tomorrow [illegible] to Cow Bay.

Very truly yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman

Sydney, 3rd Sept. 1856.

Dear Brevoort;

Since I left Fiji I have received only one letter from you, which I found at Callao, and one from Mr. Hawkins, which I received at Lima, dating eight days again from Mr. Hawkins. I found at Callao a letter from the Assistant Generals Office Nova Scotia Militia and Captain H. Brevoort, offering for myself a letter from Mr. Hawkins addressed "care of Hall Brevoort Esqr. Erie Canal Sydney." He says:

"Dear Sir.

"Your favor of the 5th ult was received today. In reply to your question, I would say the Harmony Mining Co. pay for a design and estimate for $ 000. in gold, that is to say, if the Directors, and that of each [illegible] & [illegible] it is decided, all. You

C. Hawkins.

[illegible] was [illegible] Post [illegible] the U. S. and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Sydney, C. B.; 4 Sept. 1864.

John W. Sullivan Esq.
Brookline.

Dear Sir;

Your favor of the ninth of August came duly to hand; but the prospectus which you talked of sending has not yet arrived.

I have only to reply that I should, as I stated in my former letter, be happy to act professionally "for a salary or a salary and part interest"; but that if you mean to propose my doing so for an interest alone, the matter is quite out of the question.

My relationship to Dr. Geo. W. Lyman is traceable, but I believe too remote to be considered ordinarily any at all.

Respectfully yours,
Benj. Smith Lyman

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Sydney C. B.; 4 Sept 1864.

John M. Sullivan Esq.
Hartshire.

Dear Sir;

You favor of the ninth of August came duly to hand; but the prospectus which you titled "Sunday has not yet arrived.

I have only to reply that I should, as I stated in my former letter, be happy, that professionally "for a salary or a salary and part interest;" but that if you mean to propose my doing so for an interest alone, the matter is quite out of the question.

My relationship to Dr. Geo. W. Lyman is [illegible], but I believe, too remote to be considered [illegible] any [illegible].

Respectfully yours
Roy Scott Lyman

Sydney, C. B., 17 Sept. 1864.

Dear James,

Your letter of the fifteenth of August reached me on the twentieth and that of the twenty-first on the second of September. As there was no chance of a letter of mine reaching you before the fifth of September, I telegraphed you on the twenty-ninth: "If yet possible get one in New York, send balance for them to Massachusetts governor." I meant, as I supposed you would of course understand, get one recruit in New York to represent yourself, and send the rest of the money to Massachusetts, I suppose the governor is the proper authority from what I see in the papers, to get other recruits at the rate of [illegible] if that is still possible. I have from the first been quite sensible of the degree to which it must bother you to attend to such affairs in New York considering the distance up town at which your place of business is; but it is perhaps best on the whole for you to take advantage, if any way possible, of this opportunity of exemption. I do not myself much expect to be drafted, because owing to my absence so much from Philadelphia I am not probably enrolled there. That, I suppose, would be the proper place of my enrolment, although I have been there so little for the past year and have actually at present most of my personal property in Massachusetts. I should much prefer to be drafted, if at all in Massachusetts, and I think there is more chance that I am enrolled at Northampton than at Philadelphia; and if drafted in either place I should hardly be exempted by nonresidence. However, I am ready to run the risk of being drafted in Philadelphia without a substitute there, in consideration of the greater advantages and convenience of securing recruits in Massachusetts. I have, therefore, seen no reason since sending your bulletin to alter the directions I had given in the telegram ~~after [illegible]~~ I have no convenient opportunity down here of obtaining a suitable recruit.

Your affectionate Brother

Benj. Smith Lyman

Sydney C. B.; 6 Sept. 1866.

Dear Bennett;

I am very acceptable favor of the first and third one at hand this morning.

I have still nothing very pleasant to communicate. Dr is again suppose at the Boring No. 1. After boring the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at D.5 further towards Black Rock. In the party [illegible] boring at D.8 after going down just below the [illegible] coal, abandoned the hole and began boring near McKellar's gate. On Tuesday last Mr. Smith sent in [illegible] to have the [illegible] [illegible] by Stiles and told me [illegible] on Friday [illegible] [illegible] Saturday [illegible] I went to Stiles [illegible] him up [illegible] the rods and [illegible] [illegible] to do them quickly. It [illegible] [illegible] were two chances to send them out Saturday but Saturday evening they had not been sent out. I asked Camerfort to call for them on Monday morning to take them out if they were done and went myself to see about them [illegible] morning. Stiles said they were nearly done and would be ready by the time Camerfort was. Monday [illegible] [illegible] I went again and found Stiles just finishing them. [illegible] [illegible] yesterday as well as Camerfort [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] morning. [illegible] Mr. Smith sends me word that one of [illegible] parties is idle for want [illegible] rods; to be sure some of the men if he thought [illegible] might be [illegible] at the hole that is begun [illegible] the [illegible] but that seems to be forgotten. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and promises me this morning to take [illegible] out [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] if he has to go on purpose. I had made up my mind to have him to go on purpose if necessary for that is better than to have the work delayed until a chance should occur of sending out the rods. Meanwhile they are boring at McKellar's gate about D.5.

I feel pretty sure that McKenzie's claim is worth nothing and I am sorry to have to hold the same opinion of your further. I think the same of Lelaas & McDonald's, but am not quite sure but there is something of value in one corner of it. I have [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Queen Charlotte Islands [illegible] Indians. I am afraid he is [illegible] for further [illegible]. He will perhaps be well forgotten [illegible] but you would probably be able [illegible] Even he could [illegible] from [illegible] by giving you an interest. Publication may be [illegible] Indians [illegible] though it be little, that, known, [illegible] on the same [illegible] as the rest.

I cannot give you a little [illegible] from me in your publication of the natives of Queen Charlotte Islands, [illegible] Indians [illegible] but I think [illegible] as [illegible] about it. It would probably be as well [illegible] with [illegible] to have applying [illegible] Indians [illegible] Government may [illegible] as I think [illegible] Indians could be [illegible] Lieut. Governor [illegible] would [illegible] Victoria, B.C. [illegible] Mr. Trutch [illegible] Indians, if only [illegible] to you otherwise possible. I cannot make up payments in this mail [illegible] letter [illegible] Indians [illegible] Mr. Duncan [illegible] Metlakahtla [illegible] and [illegible] Government [illegible] Victoria [illegible] Mr. Trutch [illegible] Indians [illegible] Mr. Duncan [illegible] Indians [illegible] Mr. Duncan [illegible] Indians [illegible] Mr. Duncan

Sydney: 6 Sept. 1866.

John Smith Esq.
Cow Bay.

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the fourth came yesterday. I send you the rods to day by Ormond. They have been delayed so long [illegible] Nicholson's fault. I hope in the meantime you have had the digging of the hole near Angus [illegible] carried on and perhaps finished. I see that you have the rods [illegible] with the boring of both holes you were on before, at 4 5 and at [illegible].

Send me work if possible by Ormond how you are getting on. I think I shall be with you again tomorrow.

Very truly yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman

[Copy.]

Cowley, Feb. 87.

Dear B—

On my way out from Sydney last week I was
[illegible] by Mr Peter Perry [illegible] with me
from [illegible] for me to say he had received [illegible]
[illegible] forty one feet ten inches and had bored through
a final foot and a half, adding [illegible] feet as near as
[illegible] recently [illegible] to me to [illegible]
[illegible] So I felt satisfied — telegraphed you, & —
call it coal in small quantities six feet thick; but as [illegible]
[illegible] I found there was no reason for surface
shows [illegible] nine feet and a half but that there is
[illegible] seam underneath. I went to Sydney — in the night
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] heard a whistle & [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] began boring at [illegible] by Angus & Brownlow, this
had been got ready while we were away [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] feet in the [illegible] what may you [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
also had a hole [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
side of the basin [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
Coal [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
has also [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] now about forty feet down — [illegible] Today went through [illegible]
[illegible] a foot and [illegible] into dark rock in which they
are now

[Copy] Cape Breton 10 Sept 1851

Mr. Harrington Esq.
Sydney

Dear Sir,

Yours of the eighth is at hand. I cannot beg you to send me eighty dollars instead of sixty as I asked.

Peter McKinney says you told him we might have your boring rods again on Monday. If you would be so kind as to see that the [illegible] brings them out [illegible], you would greatly oblige

Yours very respectfully
Benj. [illegible]

Coo Bay, 13 Sept. 1864.

Dear Barwick,

Your letters of the sixth and eighth were handed me on Sunday by your father. He cannot land so I call on him on Friday for one letter.

I sent your two coats last night by Cranefoot as you desired. Jane had ordered them the day you went for her, but she says nothing else. She had a big time in the round and called him an old fiend and he looked at her, yet he knew right well what was the matter. She told me that with some [illegible] any accounts in my account case. He promised [illegible] and I hope they will come [illegible]

I should have sent you the Adjutant-General's letter [illegible] if you had gone on Saturday. How I was [illegible] I changed my mind finally from the belief that [illegible] and he would [illegible] and I forgot about it. [illegible] which was [illegible] by Cranefoot but I did not come at all that day as I should and on Friday we forgot nothing it. Then on receiving your telegram I got [illegible] and the letter. All had it not been [illegible] Bay, [illegible] Sydney via [illegible] Road. It was [illegible] you had gone [illegible] on Saturday. [illegible] right come with [illegible] and we [illegible] I returned at [illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] yesterday morning. I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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[illegible] coming up here again yesterday for a week or two. Not after last night's [illegible] would be four shillings a day and the expenses of [illegible] for the 2nd [illegible] and Allen Hart-[illegible] Then we [illegible] deal of quibbling & offers from some of the fishermen, like at the other [illegible] Hart read [illegible] today if they were dissatisfied with the arrangement for I am sure that [illegible] would be glad to [illegible] beginning or ending of a day rather than [illegible] & work like [illegible] think the new arrangement will [illegible] [illegible] Hart [illegible] [illegible] Hart's back [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible], [illegible] 3 Apr. 1864.

My dear Mr. Lehy,

I send you, in [illegible], [illegible] a [illegible] full of exchange for $200 [illegible] drawn by [illegible] Bellaire on A. T. Stout, dated yesterday, payable [illegible] and endorsed by me to you. This is one half of the [illegible] dollars I have received in [illegible] for the [illegible] for Bellaire, and all that you say you will accept for your share in return for the labor you expended on the map last spring. Be assured that I feel myself [illegible] very much obliged to you. The map and report were finally finished and mailed to Bellaire only yesterday. We have been partly to blame for the delay since I came here here. I [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Very affectionately yours

Benj. Smith Lyman

[illegible] Sept 16th 1864

Dear Harriet

[illegible] from the Army was so delightful in spending up to the end when we [illegible] with you during a little [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Cow Bay, C. B.; 22 Sept. 1864.

C. H. Harrington Esq.

Sydney.

Dear Sir;

I must beg you to send out to me for Mr. Marshall Bousinet twenty dollars by the courier tomorrow, if this reaches you in time; if not tomorrow then at your very earliest convenience. The smaller the change the more convenient for me.

If any more of your boring rods are now not in use so that you could spare them quite conveniently, we should also be greatly obliged if you would send out as much of them as you can spare.

Respectfully yours

[illegible]

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Carr Bay, C.B.; 22 Sept. 1861.

C. H. Harrington Esq.
Sydney.

Dear Sir;

I must beg you to send out home for Mr. Marshall Bonnet twenty dollars by the carrier tomorrow if this reaches you in time; if not tomorrow, then at your own earliest convenience. The [illegible]

If any more of your boring rods are now not in use so that you could spare them quite conveniently, we should also be greatly obliged if you would send out as much of them as you can spare.

Respectfully yours
[illegible]

Bay, C.B.; 22 Sept. 1864.

Dear Barnett,

I write to keep you posted, although there is no good news yet to communicate. I feel pretty well satisfied that we are near to the crop of the coal in both the holes at Angus the Shoemaker's, but cannot tell yet from the borings whether above or below in either hole, although I still both holes are above the coal. The southern one is now forty one feet and a half deep and is in reddish rocks that resemble those near the tops of the successful holes. [illegible] this is the case a new hole will have to be dug further south, but I hope the boring [illegible] to day or to morrow will show rocks corresponding with some exactness to those in some of the other holes so that we can know with certainty about it. They bored eight feet in this hole yesterday besides being delayed a good deal with bad screws to the rods, for the material bored through was pretty soft; for some days before that they got on slowly for a fortnight since the beginning of that hole. The screws, in spite of Peters repairs are in very bad condition; I am trying to get him to set them all right. I have also just written to Mr. Harrington to send out any of his rods that he can conveniently spare; they are said to work admirably, from their superior strength and good screws. The northern hole was idle nearly half the day yesterday on account of the screws the boys of the brace head piece in particular. They bored but two feet in hard sandstone; but while the screw was repairing Mr. Smith had a couple of holes dug further up the hill. It is said that some rock and fossils similar to some above Archibald's Coal were dug up in [illegible] the cellar under Donald the Beefman's house. These constant delays are disheartening.

There is no general news of interest here. I think I saw Thos. Archibald go past in Comefort's wagon yesterday, coming out. Belloni's [illegible] has arrived, I believe, and the pony he bought a few weeks ago from Archibald has come back from New York; it seems it was once bumped by a cow and so injured as to be still slightly noticeable. I saw a gentleman and lady riding yesterday in Belloni's carriage, and the former looked so much like Robert as to show him to be his brother, but not Louis. At least two of the wrecks here have been sold at auction, perhaps more

Very truly yours
Benj. Smith Lyman

[illegible]

D. H. Harrington Esq.

Sydney.

Dear Sir;

Your favor of today accompanied by twenty dollars in specie for Mr. Marshall Burnett has come to hand; and I thank you for the same.

I remain

Respectfully yours

Benj. Lunt Lyman

Cow Bay, C.B. 23 Sept. 1864.

Dear Barnard

Your favors of the [illegible] and of the [illegible] are at hand. Mr. Harrington's statement of the money advanced one time you went away is correct; and today he has sent me twenty dollars more making $360.00 in all. Here are the expenditures:

27 Aug. 1864	Galen Holmes bill for [illegible]	$6.38
" " "	Gave Mr. Smith to pay the men	58.00
29 Aug. "	Eight feet of one inch square [illegible] 20	1.30
2 Sept. "	Paid Alex. Martin for [illegible] work surveying work before last	1.00
" " "	" " " 150 lbs. hay delivered [illegible]	1.00
" " "	Gave Mr. Smith to pay the men	51.50
" " "	" " for himself	20.00
7 " "	Twelve days at Mrs. Rigby's	15.00
" " "	Three days with horse at P. Cusick's	4.00
" " "	A rasp for Peter for the boring [illegible]	[illegible]
" " "	Paid John Ormond for carrying rods in and out	1.25
12 " "	Gave Mr. Smith to pay the men	58.50
" " "	Thirty pounds one inch round iron	1.[illegible]
" " "	Paid for [illegible]	[illegible]
" " "	Paid Comefort for bringing out [illegible] and any baggage	1.[illegible]
17 " "	Paid Alex. Martin. For 53 ft. plunker [illegible] at the borings	[illegible]
	For cart [illegible] Sydney [illegible] valise, and out with iron &c. (29 Aug.)	1.50
	For going [illegible] to Sydney [illegible] letters for the [illegible]	1.00
" " "	Paid the men (including $3.00 for Mr. Smith)	31.11
" " "	Care and feed of horse the 3d., 5th, 6th & 17 Sept. while surveying	1.00
19 "	Paid Wm. [illegible] for hay three times	[illegible]
" "	Paid the washerwoman up to date	8.25
23 " "	Gave Mr. Smith to pay the men [illegible]	[illegible]
	Total outlay	[illegible]
	Balance on hand	26.86½
		360.00

They have bored since Monday morning [illegible] feet in one hole and [illegible] inches more in the other. This morning [illegible] hole [illegible] feet deep, [illegible] up the rods and found that the chisel remained at the bottom, [illegible] defective borer [illegible] day in trying to get it up. They almost succeeded once but then [illegible] machine broke; and they are going to try it a little again tomorrow. If they fail they will dig a couple of holes to the north and to the south of the present one, and I have great confidence in the latter. Mr Smith discharged Harry McQueen day before yesterday for gambling and staying away one day. The men are now very contented. The set up the southern hole is a very good one, [illegible] Prolong not so good. I have concluded to pay Peter McKinney a dollar a day until you write definitely about him; he is satisfied with that, and I should think deserves it. He has now nearly all the screws in good order, and soon will have all. Mr. Harrington has not sent out his rods to day, nor did he mention them in his note; but we do not absolutely need them, and when our screws are all right I do not need them. I think unless two deep holes are going at once.

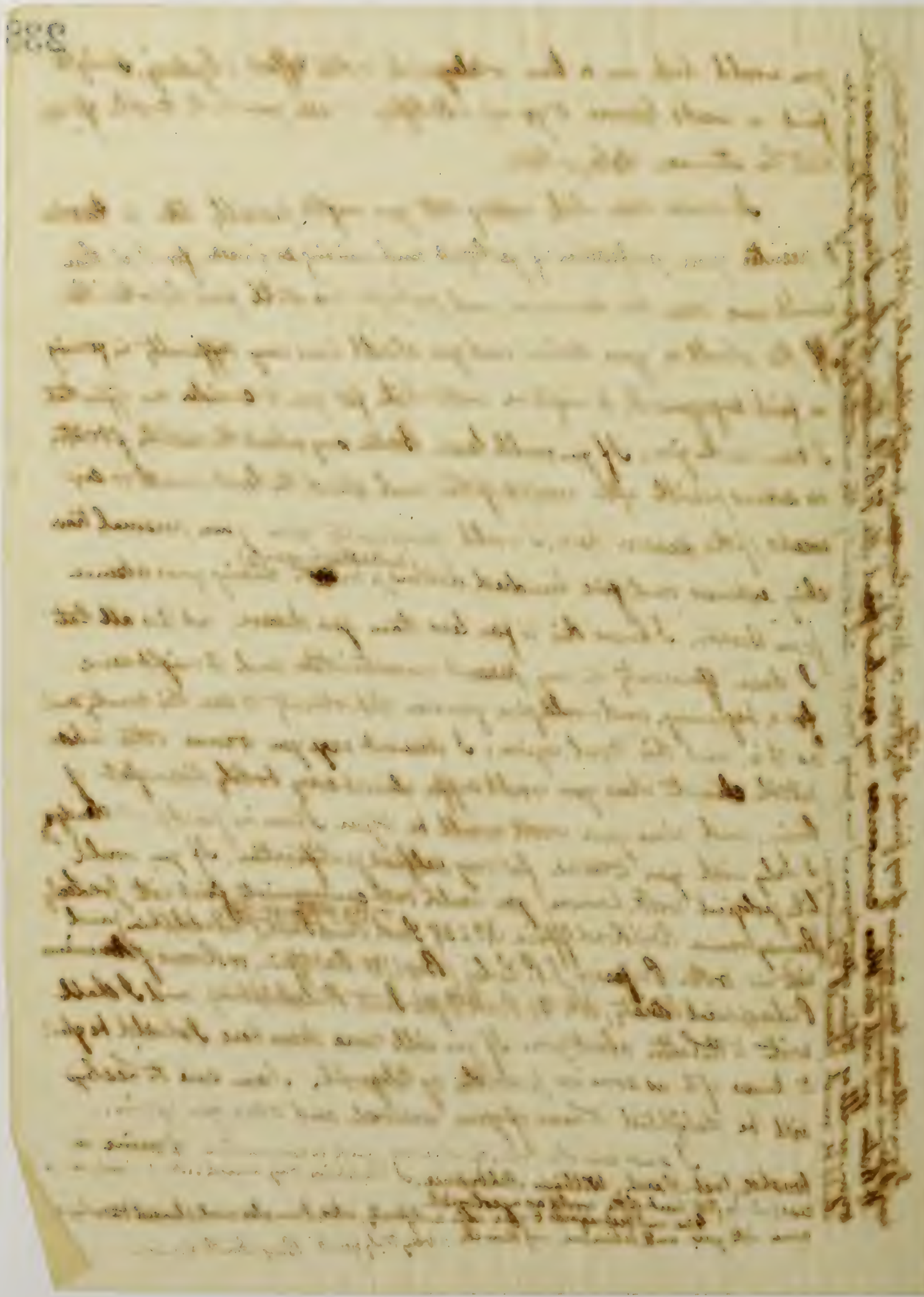
I have not examined very carefully the position of the Harrington claims, but my impression is very strong that it is quite worthless, although I cannot speak with the usual positiveness.

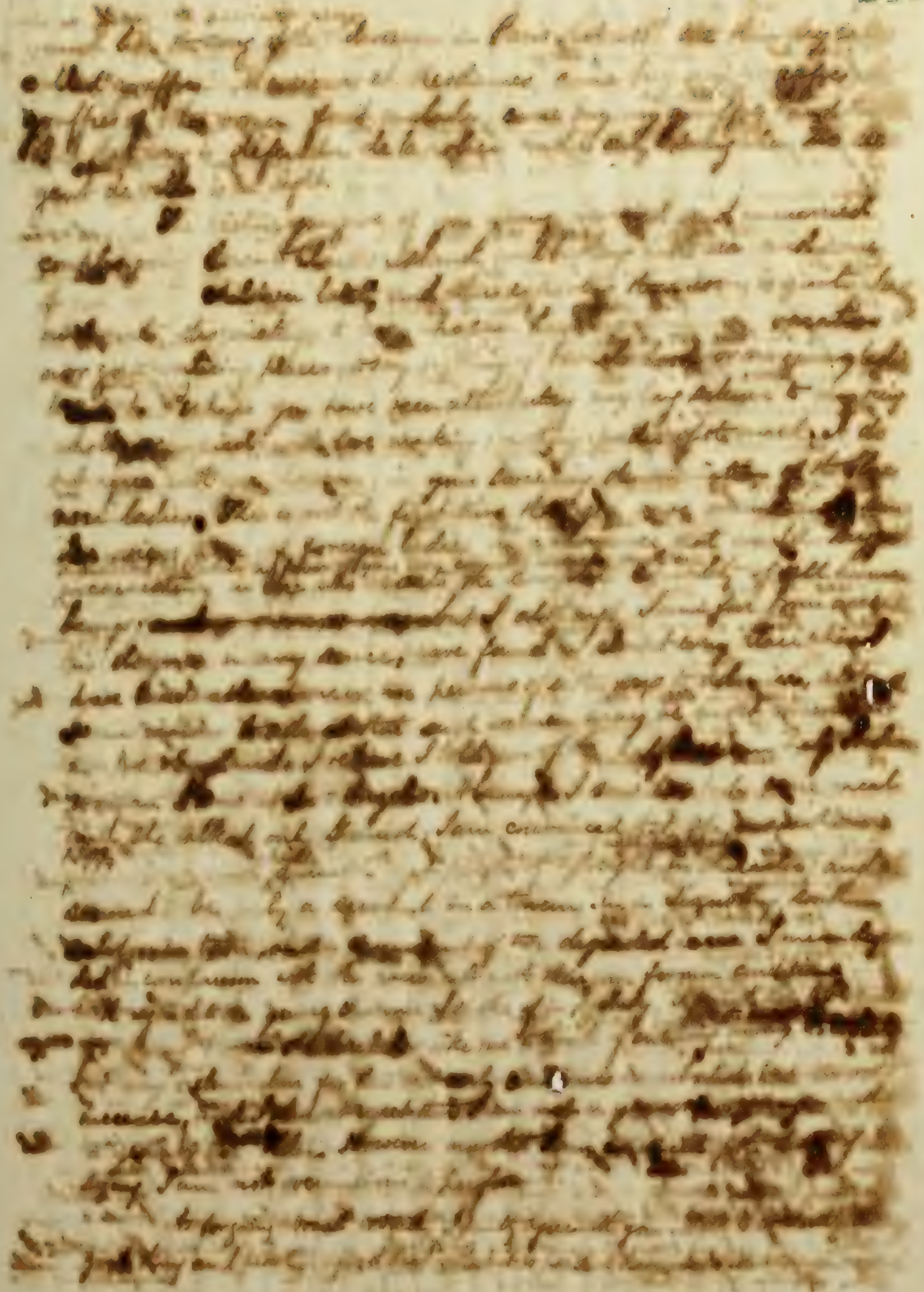
I am satisfied that it is quite useless to search longer near D13 and D15. I think it highly probable that McKinney's Bed is thicker further west, since it seems to be thicker at McKinney's than at the shore [illegible] westward [illegible] the Macaulay Coal, both of them being [illegible] than near the [illegible] Mines, far thinner than in the [illegible] Bay Basin. I see less evidence of [illegible] in regard to the [illegible] for bed at D13; but I think it would be [illegible] to bore on the McKinney bed near [illegible], and it will not be difficult, I think, to do so after [illegible] the position of the Macaulay coal there.

I should like very much to look at your [illegible] County claims; but I think it would not be wise for me to leave here until the present borings are done. I met McKeagney the lawyer in the street as I was coming out from Sydney the last time, and he said he should like to have me examine a coal claim at St. Peters in which he is interested. I am afraid it would be a waste of money to him. He said nothing very definite about it then.

It is very late and I must stop. I think I shall not go into Sydney tomorrow but [illegible] Bay and back Sunday morning and will [illegible] letters and read the papers.

Very [illegible] [illegible]





Sow Bay, C.B.; 26 Sept. 1864.

Dear Bouvinet,

I have nothing of much interest to communicate. The borings drag along as usual. They bored in the northern hole three feet and a quarter on Saturday and four feet and a half today and are now thirty four feet from [illegible]. The hole is not [illegible] of the others, but does not [illegible] especially [illegible] but on the contrary still rather promising [illegible] bored [illegible] Saturday and [illegible] [illegible] rock. If we are [illegible] the coal in this hole [illegible] distance above it [illegible] rocks bored through would indicate, [illegible] another hole must be dug and bored for it, sooner or later, and [illegible] at this depth, it is to be abandoned immediately [illegible] fifty feet [illegible] [illegible] are enough for this digging, the [illegible] feet [illegible] to guard against the possibility of [illegible] being [illegible] the [illegible]. All three of these holes [illegible] and it is here that I should prefer to have [illegible]; but if we should get the coal [illegible] the northern side of the basin it would perhaps be best to dig [illegible] right away, especially if the borings leave any doubt as to the identity of the coal. The coals on the north side of the basin having a deeper [illegible] lie nearer together and could not so readily be distinguished by their mere position as on the south side where the gentle dip puts them [illegible] apart

I remind Mr. Smith frequently that we are both extremely impatient, and he is going to excite if possible some emulation between the two holes of diggers [illegible] row. These fore are good many of others not so good. Mr. Smith says the rods work now pretty well. Mr. Harrington has [illegible] his rods [illegible] made any reply to my request for [illegible] last week; and now it is of no consequence, since with a new hole we shall have length enough of rods. With these holes they had used all but one short length. Harrington's rods are stronger and work better. I forgot to say that the chisel that dropped or rather remained in the hole on Friday when the rods were pulled up, was extracted on the first trial on Saturday morning.

Lest there may have been any miscarriage by the mail or otherwise I would mention that I wrote you on last Wednesday night or Thursday morning sending the letter in by John Ormond on Thursday morning; and also wrote on Friday night by Saturday's mail, giving account of expenditures; and wrote also on this [illegible] by Tuesday's mail.

Yesterday it rained violently most of the day and I stayed at home and wrote letters. I am trying to bring up my correspondence straight after long neglect.

I am very busy a wadays, as you suppose, with my slaves, and find it not very agreeable to be shut up so much in the house.

I notice today your letter in the last Cape Breton News, and find it admirable. I think you come out of the affair with flying colors, far better than Halibuston.

Two Roman Catholic priests [illegible] and another [illegible] out here; but he's a bad day as far as weather is concerned.

Very truly yours

[illegible]

Cape Breton C.B.; 26 Sept. 1864.

J. H. Converse Esq.

Boston.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the first was sent out here and owing to my absence at Sydney did not come to hand until the seventh. I then delayed replying with the expectation from what you said of getting a line from you again within a few days in regard to the result of your negotiations for the Campbell licenses. For some days past I have been waiting so as to be able to report the progress of affairs at Big Bloody up to yesterday. It stormed however violently yesterday and I could not go over there. I was there a fortnight ago yesterday and found things going on very well although the progress seems slow. They were delayed a good deal by some hard rock in the bottom of the drift which was to be removed to a depth of some three feet at one place. It is good solid rock and is laid one side so as to be [illegible] for any building that may be necessary. The drift was finished some four hundred feet from the shore and partly dug nearly fifty feet more. At the bottom [illegible] Sandy Bartelee and got on [illegible] men to help him so that [illegible] were eight of them counting himself. I think this is very well for it is highly desirable to get the open digging done before the continuous wet weather begins as it is better than with caving in of the sides. I think Sandy is very faithful and that the apparent slowness of the work is due to really great [illegible] earth and rock that is to be removed, and to the small number of workmen. I mean to go over there again next Sunday and will then report progress again.

I am not quite sure that I could do much in the way of surveying the Campbell Claims even for the purpose you speak of; but I think most likely that I could do all that would be necessary for that and shall pretty certainly be able to give some good advice in regard to the location of licenses if to work, by the time I return to the States.

Very truly yours,

[illegible]

Earlsbury C.B.; 26 Sept. 1864.

J. H. Lawrence Esq.

Boston.

Dear Sir;

[illegible]

Cape Bay, C.B. 26 Sept. 88.

Dear Mother,

I have been sorrowed, vexed and [illegible] by my [illegible] for the [illegible] that I have [illegible] neglected replying to your letter of the [illegible] in [illegible] and first of August, but have now to acknowledge the receipt in due time of Mary's letters of the fifteenth of August and [illegible] of the twelfth of September and Lizzie's letter of the [illegible] of August. I am very glad to hear that the Dickens children are going to spend the winter with you, and I think it will be a good thing both for the children and for the girls. I am sorry however to have my [illegible] my [illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] but as there was some uncertainty about my ability to carry out that scheme, it is well that it was not depended on.

I dare say there was some truth in the story of [illegible] reason for going to Arizona, but I guess that was only one of several motives for going. His health really seemed one object he had in undertaking such an unusually expedition. A desire to [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] also [illegible] and the real motive. His brother and partner in the [illegible] was remained at home. The Arizona [illegible] was really in the main a pretty good fellow, and it only shows how pretty decent people can sometimes have strange notions about honesty. It was a pity he did not take a few hundred of his cans of beef to Arizona. It would have found it an agreeable addition to the fare at Wilmington, supposing of course that the beef was of good quality — no dead horse meat. One of the things I had to complain of was that such canned meat to [illegible] meats were not taken in the expedition, but I was not aware that it was perhaps his familiarity [illegible] that led his contempt for them. I am curious to learn the results of the expedition. I thought his final result would have been arrived at by this time and that the party would have been dispersed; but I have heard nothing about them since I left Philadelphia.

I am living here much the same as usual. Mr. [illegible] has been gone for some weeks to Wrightsville where his wife lives, and

The Bay is extremely exposed to easterly gales, and several [illegible] were lost last year, and seven men were drowned in trying to [illegible] in a boat from one of them. It is folly [illegible] to escape [illegible] in a boat at such a time for the wrecks remain for months or [illegible] years before going to pieces, the bottom is so gently sloping, and those seven men [illegible] have lived in their vessel until the present time. The captain and his mate succeeded in returning from the boat to the vessel, and the former was still living with [illegible] for a couple of days after I came to him last fall. The first day of my surveying for [illegible] I saw [illegible] of the dead bodies that had been cast [illegible] the night before [illegible] as lives have yet been lost. As soon as the storm enfeebled the crews were set to work stripping the vessels and within a week two of them were sold at auction, and a third is to be disposed of in [illegible] [illegible] day after [illegible]. The fourth was lightened and [illegible] off from the [illegible] at a high tide. When Mr. [illegible] began shipping and here about five years ago at Bellevue [illegible] the Blockhouse, he could not [illegible] the vessels to take a cargo [illegible] they kept their main sail up, so as to be off [illegible] warning of bad weather, such was the reputation of the Bay for unsafety. [illegible] there were eighteen or twenty vessels at anchor in the Bay at the time of this storm, and a few days before there were nearer [illegible]

I take the New York semi-weekly evening Post besides the Boston Commonwealth and get my American news chiefly from them and the meagre telegrams that are sent to the Halifax newspapers. By the Post I see that Mr. Langel my excellent Paris friend has come to America. I hope he will not be off again to Europe before I return home, so that I shall miss seeing him. The paper says his wife and family have come with him. His wife you know is a daughter of Mrs. Chapman of Boston and Weymouth and is a very agreeable woman. She had too when I was in Paris a fine three or four year old boy and an infant girl that promised to become interesting.

I am going to try and straighten up my correspondence, and as a part of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [

Wm Barbee Esq.

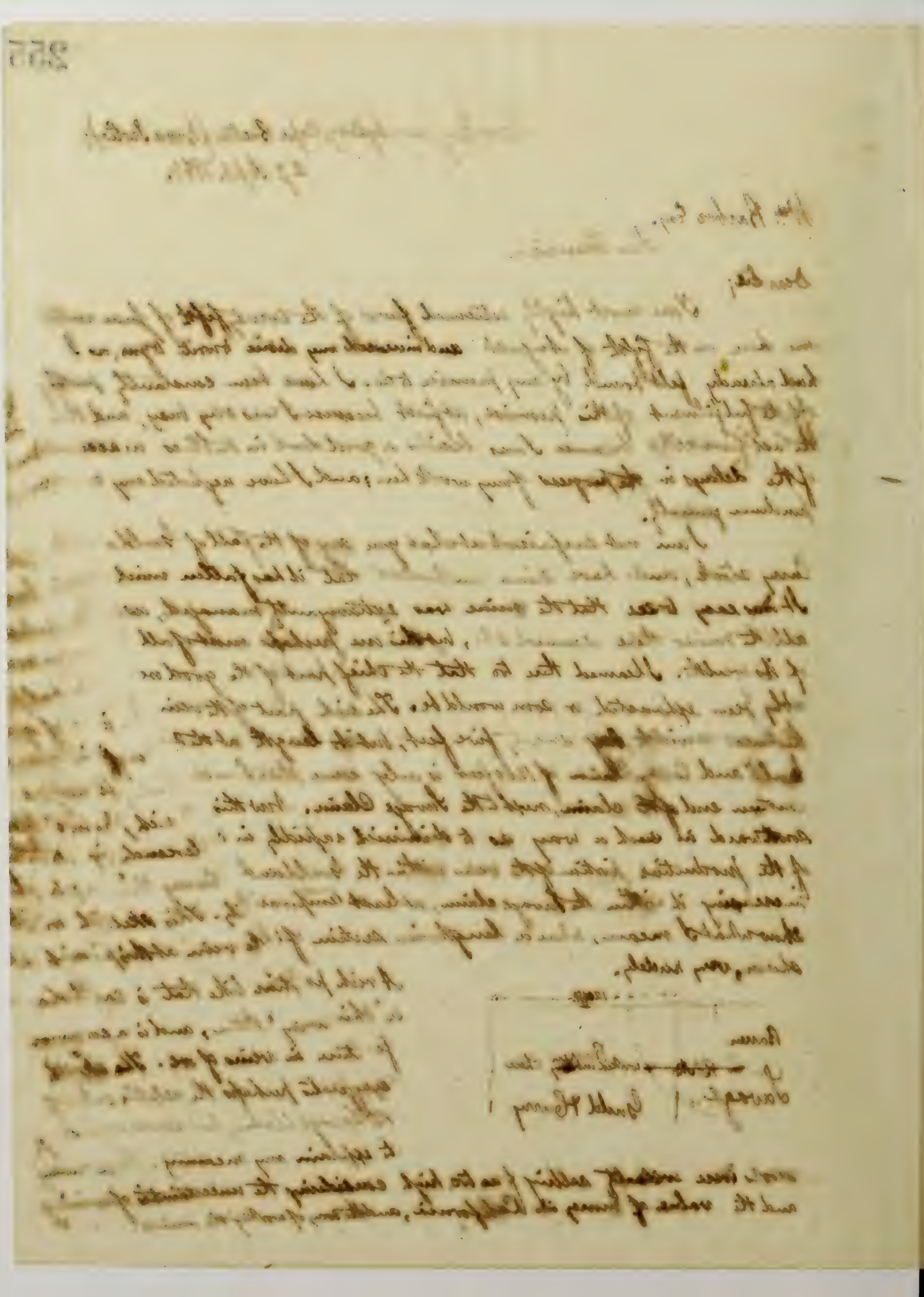
Dear Sir;

and received my Deed from you, as I had already paid [illegible] for my premises &c. I have been constantly [illegible] of the establishment of this Agency, expect however I was very busy, and the last [illegible] was [illegible] a good deal in the [illegible] as one of the delays is the [illegible] they will be paid I have applied my [illegible] purpose.

I am sorry to inform you of the fall of [illegible] very much, and that [illegible] that it has fallen much It is very [illegible] that the mine was [illegible] all the [illegible], but [illegible] of the [illegible]. I learned that to that the chief part of the gold [illegible] from upwards, a vein would be. The [illegible] five feet, with [illegible] and [illegible] vein [illegible] western end of the claim [illegible] Savage Claim. [illegible] eastward in such a way as to [illegible] of the productive [illegible] [illegible] increasing it [illegible] [illegible] should need, [illegible] [illegible] down, very rudely.

Barnes
[illegible] Savage | Gould Henry

[illegible] to explain my reasons [illegible] were [illegible] without selling [illegible] so too high considering the uncertainty [illegible] and the value of money in California, and [illegible]



[illegible] previous [illegible] coaches [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

were planned for us, and Sarah had set us down for one of the ...
of your hockey in ... Cape Porter ... I must ...
what ... could claim ... days and open up ... to ...
his claims, and ... ask. ... I ... the Virginia affair, and how ...
a possibility of ... with ... ; so that ...
the ... Before Nat ... I ...
from ... I ... I ... to ...
Cape Porter ... and ... I ... to ... I ... and ...
a ... Boston. I ... to ... I ... to ...
... I ... to ... I ... to ... I ... to ...
... I ... to ... I ... to ... I ... to ...
... I ... to ...

[illegible] Bay, C. B.; 2[illegible] Sept. [illegible]

Dear Bourinot,

They began digging yesterday a hole on each side north and south of the hole they had been [illegible] the south side of the basin near Angus the Moonmaker's, and today they reached the [illegible] in the southern [illegible] and put the [illegible] in and got ready for beginning the boring [illegible]. They found some [illegible] of coal in digging this hole, coal that resembles the [illegible] coal. The [illegible] looks favorable, that is similar to [illegible] the successful holes [illegible] where the coal. In digging the other hole they found no bits of coal, and although [illegible] [illegible] the work. This hole [illegible] [illegible]. At the hole on the north side of the basin they [illegible] yesterday [illegible] and today [illegible]. It seems almost as if some of these men ought to be discharged, they [illegible] [illegible]. This hole begins to look unpromising for [illegible]. I think it best to continue [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in the absence of that of finding one of the others, for there seems to be a coal crop just north of it.

I have been [illegible] [illegible] letters the last few nights and feel very tired and sleepy, [illegible], so that I am [illegible] of nothing of interest to write you about. Indeed I think there is no news at Cow Bay, if there is, I have been too much occupied with my work [illegible]. I did [illegible] see a load of hay that came this afternoon [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] [illegible] horse is a piece of exciting news in this [illegible]. My pony was so indiscreet as to give me a [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] kick the other day quite an unfair one considering she took me when I was quite off my [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] immediately a sound whipping in return, all for her good. Idleness and exclusively hay food are making her figure worse than ever.

I remain, as always,

Very truly yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Sow Hay C.B. 21 Sept. 86.

C. H. Harrington Esq.

Sydney.

Dear Sir;

I must ask you to send me this week for my [illegible] [illegible] Esq. fifty dollars in small bills and specie, as much of it small as you may find convenient, and oblige

Yours respectfully

[illegible]

Courtney C.B.; 23 Sept. 1881.

C. H. Harrington Esq.,
Sydney.

Dear Sir;

I must ask you to send me his work for the Sir Smith Esq. [illegible] letters in small bills and specie, as much after small as you may find convenient, and oblige

Yours respectfully,
Benj. Smith Lyman

Cave Bay, B. C. 30 Sept 1898.

Dear Harriet,

Hugo left camp with the Chief yesterday afternoon and as the river has been giving us a wide [illegible] We all have gotten all the blankets and started on doing the morning chores but [illegible] heard from him nothing we have from you for some time. [illegible] since you went away, no alterations [illegible] claim and I mean them. I have been getting [illegible] for shade of the cutting [illegible] which will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Cow Bay, Cape Breton (Nova Scotia), [illegible] 1863.

My dear Miss Clap:

I have been owing you a letter now for nearly a year and have dozens of times thought myself on the eve of discharging the debt but have always, for some excellent reason of course, neglected to do so and have suffered perhaps as a penalty for this neglect a total absence of letters on your part and Aunt Susan's to say nothing of the younger ladies of the family who probably gave me up prudently as a hopeless case in the matter of letter-writing years ago. I am now undergoing what you might call an epistolary spasm and I am determined to reply to all unanswered letters, and then, oh then, to answer all letters by return mail, and so never have such an accumulation of epistolary debts. How long before this good resolution will go to hell to serve in place of paving stone.

I was very forcibly reminded of you all at Jamaica Plain some three or four weeks ago when I lodged for three nights at a house six miles this side of Sydney while I was surveying along the road. I had taken with me then from home some writing materials with the intention of writing to you and although after this reminder I was all the more intent upon doing so yet I was so fatigued every night with the work of the day that I felt quite unable to write. I had heard that a young woman in this house a daughter of the family, had lived in the States, and had but recently returned home on a visit. So the first evening, as a young woman was clearing away my supper things, I asked her if it was she that had lived in Boston. She said yes she had lived there two years in Cedar Street near the Common, but two of her sisters had lived there much longer than she and it was one of them that had just come home on a visit but was just then in Sydney. She brought me three tin-types to look at, which represented four young ladies, who had decidedly the Boston not to say Jamaica Plain look. The explainment that they were daughters in the house where two of her sisters had lived, at Jamaica Plain, and that their name was Motley; in fact they were daughters of Mr. Thomas Motley. My informant's name was Cassick and [illegible]

Cow Bay C. B.: 1 October, 18[illegible].

My dear Uncle,

Your favor of the twenty-first of June enclosing a letter from Northampton was thankfully received in due time. I took the liberty of telegraphing to you the night before I sailed from Boston in with the expectation that you would be able to hunt me up in Boston the next morning but because I had urged Mary to accompany me to Cape Breton and had asked her to meet me at your house. When I found that I should reach Boston too late to go to Jamaica Plain it was too late to inform you of my movements except by telegraph; and I thought that if Mary had concluded to go she could meet me at the last moment at the Steamer. But the letter you forwarded contained her regret at not being able to come. I was very sorry indeed to lose the visit at Jamaica Plain that I had been counting on, and have been trying to console myself with the intention of accepting your invitation to visit you on any return to the States.

My work here has hung on longer than I expected when I came, and I now see enough before me to occupy me until winter, and perhaps more than I can do before that. I speak of work on surveys actually ordered, and there is besides a good deal of field work that, if done, would give me some office work for the winter and be sure to give me information that would be in demand and worth money. I can tell you that in the absence of Mr. Lesley here or of anybody else who knows anything of the geological structure of the country I am thought to be no small potatoes and am treated accordingly. I don't know but you will have to increase the height of your doors for me on my return.

You are no doubt pleased, as I am, that Mr. Langel has come to America, as I learn by the New York Evening Post. I hope he will not be gone before I return home.

My life here this year has been more comfortable in some respects than it was last year, especially the first part of last year. There has been this year at least a real effort made to make me comfortable and that was highly gratifying, while last year there seemed to be no such effort especially at Glace Bay.

Please send the enclosed letter to Miss Clay, and believe me always

Very affectionately yours, [illegible]

Cow Bay C.B.; 30 Oct. 188

Dear Bourinot;

Yours of yesterday was brought to me this afternoon together with the package of fifty dollars. I have just been working with it the separate parcels of the men's pay, with only partial success on account of the small amount of small bills. I have had to lump Peters pay with that of his two boarders and besides overpay him [illegible]; and moreover have been obliged to leave one of the other men quite unpaid until I can get change. I enquired for change [illegible] evening at McKenzie's and at Holmes's without success.

They bored Saturday at the southern hole five feet, today only [illegible] a half, and are twenty four feet down, in very hard sandstone. The other set of men continued on Saturday the series of holes they began Friday, a hundred feet apart up and over the hill; and as those on the top of the hill were very short they finished them all. I went out to take the dip in them, and found it in all where it was to be determined at all northeast gentle, as Mr. Smith had thought. To day these men have been digging a hole a couple of hundred feet south of the present boring, and a hole some fifteen hundred feet south of that. This last is for a boring on the McKinney coal. McKinney by the way says that the coal by his house which he has been working at a little to the right has become three feet thick; but when Mr. Smith wanted a light to go and see, Peter said the roof had fallen in so as to conceal it. He is to clear it up. The hole they are digging south of the present boring [illegible] near it is to be bored in instead of the present [illegible] for the indications at present are that in the boring they are rather more than twenty five feet above the coal, so that if they reach the rock in the new hole within a reasonable distance they will get the coal there easiest. I had the hole by Short Engers cleaned out this morning to take the dip there, and found the dip to be what it had seemed before; but I am not understand it, for continuing either eastward or westward in the strike of the rocks then you find quite a different dip.

I rode over to Big Glace Bay and back yesterday morning. I mailed you a letter here on Saturday which you seem not to have received yesterday. It was addressed [illegible] care. I am very glad you are so near as Sydney, and shall be much pleased to see you [illegible] again [illegible] Cape Breton map with you.

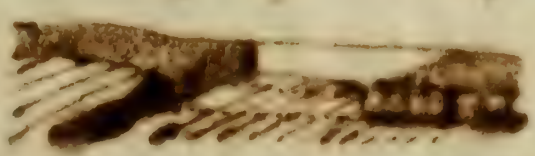
Very truly yours, [illegible]

Bow Bay, C. B. 29th [illegible]

J. M. Lawrence Esq.
Boston.

My dear Sir:

I went over to Glace Bay yesterday to see how Sandy Bartlett was getting on. I found he had advanced about twenty one yards since my last visit [illegible] weeks before, and that he had had a great deal of rock to contend with. The surface of the rock has been rising higher and higher until at last in the part where the loose drift merely has been removed the rock is some nine feet above the bottom of the drain. This I take to be the surface of the bottom of rock of the coal and in that case it will dip so as to bring the water level of the bottom of the coal and the top of this bottom rock just about the distance from the [illegible] upon which we calculated nearly six hundred feet, perhaps two or twenty feet [illegible] and a rise in the ground there seems to indicate the presence of a [illegible] over the coal. The earth has been removed from the rock to the distance of five hundred and fifty feet from the shore; the drift completed some fifty feet less. The progress in the rock is very slow and discouraging to Sandy. He regrets that you are not there to see what he is doing and the cause of the apparent slowness, for he fears you may not properly appreciate it and may think that he is not doing quite as well as he can. But I think you can rely fully upon his fidelity, and will bear in mind that he has but eight men and a boy including himself and that the rock is very hard and has to be worked with powder. I find that they have removed an average about eleven cubic yards each working day the last three weeks, and perhaps a third of that has been solid rock. They have advanced [illegible] and a half for each working day or twenty one feet a week. At this rate it will take some five weeks yet before they are finished to the roof. This rough sketch



of a section lengthwise of the drift shows what I conceive to be the present position of affairs although the dip is here exaggerated, making the horizontal distances too small in proportion to the vertical.

Very respectfully yours
Benj. Smith Lawrence.

Cow Bay N.S. [illegible]

Dear Father

Mother letter with [illegible] of September [illegible] this evening. I am happy to hear of Emma Wanseys marriage, and I suppose she has done well. I should be glad to renew my acquaintance with her and with her father. I am glad to hear of [illegible] shows intended marriage; although I know nothing of his wife, but suppose the match is agreeable not only to him but to the family. I hope Lizzie concluded to [illegible] the proposed visit to Boston; it would be a good change for her and do no harm to anybody.

In your letter of the eighteenth of July you ask for some information with regard to the Cape Breton coal as a domestic fuel, with a view to its possible use in your use. The coal mined here and at Picton in Nova Scotia is bituminous like the coal of western Pennsylvania, burns with a flame and with smoke and in burning cakes together. It would therefore be hardly fit for burning in a stove such as those you commonly use for anthracite, for owing to the caking the coal needs to be stirred up and broken [illegible] mostly with the poker. Here the coal is I believe always burned in an open grate, and it would do well undoubtedly in and an open stove as you now had in your [illegible] office. At [illegible] when the coal is semibituminous only, they had a stove [illegible]

a poker could be inserted at the bottom as [illegible]
and [illegible] and my impression [illegible]
is used in the [illegible] [illegible]
fireplaces the bitumi[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible], and perhaps [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] I may be able to send you a [illegible]
[illegible], but I can see no convenient means of doing so [illegible]
[illegible] give me great pleasure if I could. I [illegible]
[illegible] would justify [illegible] this coal at [illegible]
[illegible], but [illegible] impossible [illegible]
may. I am glad [illegible] [illegible]
the fall of gold [illegible] of wood [illegible]
must fall, and [illegible] [illegible]
bituminous coal here is [illegible] [illegible]
chiefly for the manufacture of gas and [illegible]
manufacture of [illegible] used in the [illegible]
furnaces in Boston Harbor and perhaps [illegible]. [illegible]
are used in the [illegible] and [illegible] steamers for [illegible]
purposes and perhaps [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible]
uses, but I am not sure. It is [illegible] [illegible]
for domestic fires [illegible] wood is not easier to get, and [illegible]
is never seen here. A good deal goes to Newfoundland for [illegible]
purpose, but I think that the domestic consumption [illegible]
[illegible] be small. The production [illegible]

the shipment from all the Cape Breton [illegible]
will not exceed this year I suppose [illegible]
three hundred thousand tons, and that a [illegible]
last year's shipment. [illegible] years will be [illegible]

I am [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
before the beginning of winter. Mr. [illegible] has come from [illegible]
[illegible] to Sydney with his wife and [illegible] [illegible] as that I am
relieved of the necessity of writing [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]. He does not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
of the week when his family was [illegible] in Sydney. He [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] and I [illegible] in [illegible] Sunday [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
to be going [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] again.

I see the papers as irregularly [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] by [illegible]
in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
of [illegible].

You would greatly oblige me by sending me [illegible] a bathing [illegible]
for each a thing is not to be bought here. If [illegible] I [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] still in existence and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
If not, please buy me and let me settle with you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The leaves have put on their gay colors here and are [illegible]
of fall. On the other hand, oats are just harvesting, and barley [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] near Sydney Cape Breton, [illegible]
12 Oct. '64.

Mr. Aug. Lengel
Dayton.

My dear friend:

Your note of the twelfth of last month has not just reached me by the way of Philadelphia where Mr. Haley illness probably prevented his forwarding it promptly. I am pleased that you wrote to inform me of your arrival. I feared you had lost my address. You have probably received before this a letter I wrote you more than two weeks ago on seeing your arrival announced in the newspaper. I sent it under cover to my friend Sanborn to be forwarded directly to you, if he knew your address. [illegible] of Wendell Phillips who would I thought certainly know your whereabouts. I regret exceedingly that I am not at home as as to see you. It would have given me great pleasure to accompany you on your tour. I hope you have had an opportunity to go with Mr. Haley on some of his trips into the mountains of Pennsylvania. He could tell you a great deal that would interest you in regard to the geology of any part of that state and its [illegible] customs. He wrote me he was going to write to you, and I know he would be glad to see you.

Although your letter does not give me much encouragement I must that you are intending to remain in the States at least as late as December when I shall return thus. I wish very much on my own account you were here according to the plans I proposed in my former letter; but you will find the States much more agreeable in every respect than this country. I hope I shall arrive home in time to contribute my humble efforts towards making your stay in America pleasant.

Remember me most kindly to your wife and family and believe me always

Very affectionately yours.

Benj. Smith Lyman.

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Cow Bay [illegible]

My dear Mr. Lesley,

Your favor of the twenty-seventh of last month [illegible] Mr. Langel's note reached me today. I am very glad to hear that your health is improving; I only heard of your illness two or three days ago in a round-about way. I have a [illegible] of Mr. Langel, and as he says he meant to make a tour in the middle and western states, I hope he has been able to accompany you on some trip to the Pennsylvanian mountains. If you could give him a letter of introduction to Mr. Hall of Albany it would be of value to him, I think, unless it is too late to profit by it. I think Mr. Hall's collection of fossils would be extremely interesting to Mr. Langel to say nothing of his society. If you wish to do your Philosophical Society an honor you could not do it better than by getting Mr. Langel elected a member of it; and I dare say he would himself consider it a pleasing attention.

The borings here advance very slowly indeed, could all I can. We have bored no coal since I wrote, but I expect we shall tomorrow or next day, as the materials bored through in one of the holes are recognizable. This is on the MacAuley coal, south side of the basin, a mile and a half west of the bore hole on it at Morrison's Lake. They are also boring for the Cow Bay coal eight [illegible] of that and I think must succeed in the first [illegible]. The boring on the north side of the basin, as I supposed, has been abandoned because on making a reduction of my plottings of the Cow Bay and Sydney and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] more to the north than I had supposed from the Bellevue survey by ~~nearly~~ seven to ten degrees. I find it hard to reconcile my observations of the dips and strikes on the shore below Bellevue [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible], but it corresponds with the [illegible] of the [illegible] axis observed on the shore, and explains far better the topography of the country all the way to Sydney. One of the south dips that I observed in June last year seems quite [illegible], although proved by digging; for continues in either direction from it [illegible] come to north dips. It reminds me of what you say on page 159 of your manual, [illegible]

[illegible] can you [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
flat [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
and a large [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

Cow Bay, C.B., [illegible] 1864.

My dear Bonnet,

MacDougall brought me this afternoon your letter and Mr. Leslie's and the charity and spent a couple of hours here, [illegible] supper here. I have handed [illegible] the twenty dollars you inclosed.

The materials bored through in the boring for the McAuley coal are quite satisfactory in appearance, and we are probably within ten or fifteen feet of the top of the coal. The boring there gets on very slowly, only two feet and a half today, said to be hard, but the other hole is still slower. If we get the McAuley as I feel quite sure of doing, I think the other hole must be successful too.

The trial pit at Sandy Martin is getting on very slowly as you probably learned from John Morrison, who called here this evening [illegible] return from town.

I think I see now the position of the outcrops of the two coals on the north side of the Basin, near the widow McPherson in the Northern Cleveland and on the new Road in the western Cleveland. I hesitate, however, [illegible] until I see you tomorrow, to try to get new men today over there, considering that [illegible] our [illegible] will probably be free again in a couple of days and we could give only two or three days work to new men.

MacDougall finds only fifteen feet of water in that "leaf" cove in the Lake, but a mud bottom. I incline more and more to Bay Glace Bay as a shipping point if that is made a harbor.

Yours [illegible] Benj. [illegible]

30th, 18[illegible]. — Mr. Smith [illegible] today that no [illegible] can be got [illegible] as I wish you would try [illegible] in Sydney to get some. Meanwhile they will [illegible] get along with straws, which are less [illegible] than [illegible] fuse.

We are getting [illegible] handed for the borings, which are [illegible] about thirty five feet deep [illegible] as [illegible] the rods heavy. One or two of the new [illegible] have been working [illegible] at the borings, although we have been [illegible] expecting to resume work at the [illegible]. They were drilling holes [illegible] last night but probably made no [illegible] from want of fuse.

Johnny Phelan is just riding up from Archibald's and has [illegible] in getting fuse after all from Archibald himself without [illegible] difficulty. The other application for it was made by Billy [illegible] to John Smith Jr., and was refused.

It is stormy today, as I feared it would be, as you will probably not [illegible] out. What a pity we have no telegraph from here to Sydney.

B. L. C.

Mr. Leahy wrote on the twenty seventh just as he was getting a little better from a severe illness of a fortnight, an attack of chills and fever, which he is occasionally subject. He seems to expect peace speedily. He says "It is possible that no financial crash will follow and that the momentum of enterprise will continue, but no one knows."

B. L. C.

Angus McDougall Esq.
at Angus McAulay.

[illegible]

Mr. Bennett [illegible] me to get about the
[illegible]
[illegible]
blage [illegible]
[illegible]

Cow Bay C.B.; 17 Oct. 1864.

Dear James:

Your highly [illegible] favor of the second instant is at hand [illegible]. I [illegible] you [illegible] first bill of exchange for one thousand [illegible] (United States currency) drawn at sight by George A. [illegible] (or [illegible] else) on Messrs. James Hunter & Co. [illegible] Street [illegible] in favor of Messrs. [illegible] & Lowell, and endorsed by Messrs H. & L. in favor of [illegible] and by him in favor of Marshall Bourinot, [illegible] by Marshall Bourinot and in your favor by me. You are so kind in your offer to assist me in such matters that I [illegible] the [illegible] United States Bonds in a similar manner [illegible] your [illegible] former [illegible] that is, either yourself or through [illegible] Perhaps the most convenient [illegible] for you to endorse [illegible] by mail. I shall probably receive no more for several [illegible] is due me from Mr. B[illegible]; for the unexpected length of time [illegible] his available funds.

Mr. [illegible] was fundamentally allowed [illegible] orthography [illegible] I had the [illegible] to emulate Dr. Furness or [illegible] the Doctors remarks as my own; for since the appearance of the [illegible] in my coast I had been [illegible] in receipt of any information of the Doctor, and as far as the [illegible] and [illegible] must continue to claim the sole credit of conception, although the conception may have been worthy as you say of a poetic soul, while the rest is commonly attributed to Mr. Partington or [illegible]. The malady of which I complained, deep seated as [illegible] it has nearly disappeared during an almost total abstinence from [illegible] of about two weeks, and I cease to cry out with Thomson "Come Gentle Spring" but am comfortable on unconsumed seats or even on the saddle. The cry in former times arose from the difficulty of going to the springs myself, since there are so few here.

I remain as ever,

Your affectionate brother,

Bay Smith Lyman.

[illegible] Bay 2 S. 19 Oct. 1866.

Dear Bonnet,

Mr. MacDougall wishes me to inform you of I have the [illegible] [illegible] is [illegible] will probably be finished to morrow night and he would be glad to have a visit from you at the Beach before [illegible] I sent to him yesterday for about ten feet of rods for fear of running short at the boring and he sent me thirty feet all he had because he was done with them.

Our boring seem to get on slower than [illegible] Monday they were somewhat delayed by the rain, but made at the near hole only nine inches of very hard sandstone and at the far hole one foot of "softer" sandstone. Yesterday at the far hole they broke one of the screws of the rods in the hole and spent rather more than half the day in getting the rods out and bored in the rest of the time only six inches in the same "softer" sandstone. At the near hole yesterday they bored only two feet nine inches, only a part of it very hard. At the new pit they were sixteen feet eight inches down last night and Mr. Smith gave them a scolding for having done next to nothing in the last twenty four hours, or at least in the night before last. It seems that John Morrison and Sandy Martin have confined their labors to the winch and to the general superintendence, instead of taking their turn at the digging as I expressly instructed them through Sandy [illegible]. Of course they might all three [illegible] shift [illegible] turns about an hour at a time at the digging and as the ground is very wet and the water comes in pretty [illegible] they must work as they can during that hour as if they were in a hurry, for they are resting while at the winch.

I am afraid we shall have to get rid of the whole kit of them but it is perhaps best to try them a few days longer.

If you go out to the Beach I hope you will call here.

There are two men digging beyond Sand Hole, one of them is Short Angus and I am afraid not much is accomplished.

I remain, as ever

Very truly yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman

Cow Bay, C. B.; 22 Oct. 18[illegible]

[illegible],

[illegible] this week [illegible] about ninety [illegible] Saturday [illegible] in each hole, [illegible] in the [illegible] pit [illegible] feet and [illegible] beyond Sand Lake. [illegible] they got [illegible] yesterday [illegible] are today beginning [illegible] second hole there. [illegible] pretty [illegible] and [illegible] they have not [illegible] the [illegible] solid [illegible].

Mr. MacDougall spent the afternoon [illegible] last week to Mrs. [illegible].

Very truly yours

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Hazel Bay, P. O., 24 Oct. 1866.

Dear Brainerd:

Yours of ult[imo], together with the papers

on precedence

Hazel Bay. Sandy

Sand Lake. The

Sand Lake.

delay, if you desire it. You would not probably watch that upon the map that you take to New York to show to business men there; it would make the map unwieldy without much use. I would just that one separate sheet. If it would suit you as well I would like to do that after the [illegible] for field work is past. I am say nothing very decided about the profits of the Tracy seam until I have examined the roads along the North Shore of the Bay [illegible] from Tracy's mines and Shoreham for some time very impatient to go [illegible].

I must still hold most decidedly the opinion that I have already several times expressed to you, that the Ross seam does not exist upon the northern part of your third claim, but only in the neighborhood of Sand Lake where they are now digging for it. You are aware that the Mt Tracy [illegible] and the Ross are the same. You will see by the map in the pamphlet of the International Company that the Ross seam marked there as [illegible] cannot by any possibility pass out the neighboring portion of your claim, much less on to the Cadejun claim.

In regard to the present borings I am very confident that both [illegible] are very near the coals sought for. In regard to the position of the coals on the north side of the basin I have far less confidence, but have good hopes of the holes digging there, beyond Sand Lake. I am as much or more disheartened than you by the delay. I am and have been for some time very tired [illegible] work, and very impatient to go back to the States. Besides the fatigue, or very near [illegible] a friend of mine, a friend many [illegible] lately came on a visit to the States and I fear he will go away before I get there. Even if your work were done, however, I should have to stay till the end of the season, either for the [illegible] surveys of which I have spoken to you or to do some surveying to complete in a measure some of the work already done, and [illegible] up some points which any of the claims at present under survey.

As the money has not come I suppose you were unable to find a good opportunity of sending it.

Very truly yours

Benj. Smith Lyman

Cow Bay C.B., 24 Oct. 36.

J. H. Converse Esq.

Dear Sir;

Your favor of the fifteenth of October is at hand to-day and I am glad to learn by it that you are [illegible] in Sydney.

[illegible] again yesterday. I found that about [illegible] had been accomplished in the last three weeks as in the preceding [illegible] [illegible] I would that the highest rock they had [illegible] three weeks ago was the rock immediately under the coal; and [illegible] [illegible] a foot of coal only a few feet beyond the [illegible] [illegible] ago. Nearly three weeks ago Sandy in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] encouraged by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the drain at six hundred [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] depth of ten feet came to [illegible] [illegible] coming to the bottom. This is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in that position; but there [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a good roof where the drain [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] surface of the ground seems to [illegible] [illegible] roof begins a very few feet beyond this trial pit of his. The drain has been dug some five feet deep up to within a few feet of the trial pit. The rock has been cut as far as the highest point so that the work will now be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. Sandy has now but three or four men besides himself. He seems to be extremely faithful and capable and I wish we had more to like him here. He gets much more work out of his men than is [illegible] [illegible].

Hoping to see you soon, I remain

Very truly yours,

Benj. [illegible] Lyman

P.S. Sandy showed me where the International Company's engineers stuck a wedge eleven feet to the rock. It was as [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], not in the [illegible] nor in [illegible] [illegible]. B. S. L.

Cow Bay, C.B.: 24 Oct. 86.

Dear Mary,

Mother's letter of the [illegible] instant came to hand this afternoon and gave me great pleasure, especially the information about Mrs. Langel and his movements. I hope I shall get back to the [illegible] in time to see him.

I like very well your plan of teaching the Delano children, both on their account and your own. Only I hope you will not overwork yourself so as to get sick. I shall be sorry not to have you as a housekeeper, and I am afraid to go no [illegible] for any other housekeeper, a more permanent one. However, if you do get sick from teaching or of teaching, it's an ill wind that blows no [illegible] and you can then come and reestablish your health by the help of housekeeping exercise and any wholesome diet.

It seems to do no good even to write "by Express Mail" on the back of our letters; the postmasters seem to take no notice of it and send them by the slow land route by Amherst and Antigonish. It seems to me that all letters paid in advance ought to go the quick route, for that payment is all that is required. In the States nothing is advertised about the greater cost of sending a letter by the Halifax Steamer but it is insisted upon here, thirteen cents and a half instead of ten. Perhaps Father would [illegible] drop a line of inquiry to the postmaster general. I think I shall write to the [illegible] postmaster general and add that inquiry also to some that I have to make about frequent charges of postage here on papers that are paid for in the States and [illegible] so. If you write at the time of the sailing of the Cunard Steamer, put on the back of the letter "By Cunard" or "Brilliant Mail Steamer to Halifax" and I think it will go that way. Letters come so from Boston, [illegible] only five cents are paid on them and then the thirteen and a half cents are collected after here.

My life remains unchanged here. The [illegible] drag [illegible] slowly along, and are very discouraging. I am very tired of the work

and impatient to see home, especially as I am sick by staying here until the end of December.

I have little or nothing of interest to write about and this is a poor return for the two letters I have had from you. Mr Barnard is living with his wife and children at Mr. Rigby's in Bay, and I see them occasionally, and I dined and breakfasted in Sydney with them. But the roads have become impassable as very bad as they can be for carriages. Last Sunday I went to a funeral with most of the inhabitants of the town. The deceased was an elderly lady of whom I had very little opinion. The procession started from her late residence by men from the house. The English church service was read; then all hands went on board the ship and the usual burial service was read; then all hands went on board the ship and the usual burial service was read; then all hands went on board the ship and the usual burial

Lawrence, C. W.: 28 Sept. 1854.

Dear Comstock

[illegible] of ninety dollars and fifty [illegible] cents [illegible] dollars and [illegible] cents [illegible] for which [illegible] cents [illegible] cents [illegible] cents

[illegible] him, that [illegible] your coats by him. [illegible] of any day [illegible] he has [illegible] later than [illegible], that day that you passed him [illegible] he may have [illegible] horseback by Mr [illegible] [illegible] to arrive here. I don't know [illegible] if I were coming out as passenger by him as I may [illegible] I should not [illegible] as to arrive here [illegible] I should not [illegible] his [illegible] letters when he comes [illegible] to them [illegible]. [illegible] it a good [illegible] more convenient hour than [illegible] now. I have some thought of making inquiries [illegible] the post-master [illegible] bring the mail [illegible] a wagon, as [illegible] and packages for my impression is that [illegible]

[illegible] mail is closed. If the mail carriage [illegible] you, you would [illegible] it would [illegible] too much [illegible] now. I suppose the speed [illegible] for the distance [illegible] a triple [illegible] than [illegible] day eighteen and a half from the [illegible] and [illegible] probably [illegible] seldom [illegible] [illegible]

I suspect [illegible] condemnation of Mr [illegible] [illegible] from a [illegible] be found [illegible] feet, but this was [illegible] by [illegible] nor even in the [illegible] [illegible] on the north side [illegible] oak.

I wrote a note to [illegible] I did [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] as sure to see him, [illegible] [illegible]. If you see him, [illegible] him [illegible]

[illegible] yesterday morning and [illegible] is to call today on his way to Sydney, and I shall send this by him. [illegible] a line by tomorrow's mail [illegible] money will be needed for [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] 27 Oct. 1[illegible]

Dear Lizzie,

[illegible] came yesterday [illegible] the [illegible], and I [illegible] The [illegible] is a very fine one, a vast [illegible] [illegible] have been using [illegible]

[illegible] Wells [illegible], and [illegible] that this is an [illegible] I have been [illegible] at Northampton ever since I [illegible] down [illegible] [illegible] of his death is [illegible] upon the idea that he and [illegible] of the [illegible] having fire-arms about me for [illegible]; but [illegible] Commentary upon the manner in which [illegible] were handled [illegible] they [illegible] to be [illegible].

I am very glad [illegible] that you are to be present at Frank [illegible] wedding. [illegible] will be [illegible] change for you. I hope [illegible] overwork yourselves in the way of [illegible]. You may be sure no one would be more [illegible] I [illegible] you both capable of [illegible] [illegible] at the same time, no one would regret more than I [illegible] you [illegible] health and perhaps your constitution by [illegible] to accomplish [illegible] be [illegible] as favorable as they have been [illegible] Mary will deep first her French scholars, if she [illegible] if the two Delanos are too much still, [illegible] to them too, for it cannot be difficult to find other good places in New England to leave them in. Then Mary can come and keep house for me and become a proficient in that art which you have already mastered. You see there is a grain of selfishness at the bottom [illegible]

[illegible] and Doctor Howe arrived in Sydney, [illegible]

and I am going in [illegible] Sunday with them. [illegible]
very muddy [illegible] and I have of late taken no
pleasure in reading the Bible. [illegible]
may have imagined after seeing the way you have treated [illegible]
[illegible] in the square [illegible] only way. [illegible]
[illegible] or descendant [illegible] a surname. The name
of the Scots [illegible] for his [illegible]. By far the most common
name is [illegible] Mack [illegible] Scotland. [illegible]
[illegible] Donald, and the other [illegible]
[illegible] Donald, [illegible] Mack [illegible]
[illegible] Donald [illegible] Mack [illegible]
[illegible] Donald [illegible] Mack [illegible]
[illegible] Donald

Cow Bay, C.B.; 1 Nov. 1864.

P. S. Hamilton Esquire,
[illegible] Commissioner of Mines
[illegible]

Dear Sir;

I send you herewith according to the promise made yesterday, a small sheet containing a map of the Converse Lease, at Big Glace Bay, with a topographical map of that portion of the lease where the present opening is making, and with a lengthwise and a cross section of the drain and drift; and I hope this will be enough to make clear the manner in which it is intended to work the Phelan Bed.

It is probably [illegible] of the comparatively little cost of mining coal that is above water level and drained by a drift without the need of pumps; or of the advantage even when a pit is sunk below water level of having the surface water drained by a drift to the lowest point possible. The beginning of such a drift [illegible] where the coal comes to a steep shore; [illegible] the water level of the coal and the outcrop as both coming, in theory quite to the shore, yet in reality, as the sections show, the coal and the rocks are everywhere covered by several feet of drift loam. The [illegible] the drain reaches the water level of the coal was chosen as the nearest one to the shore on that level at which we could confidently expect to find a good roof of rock over the coal.

The inclined plane at the mouth of the drift is to save the length of transportation through the long covered drain. A vertical shaft as dotted on the section, with a winding engine may also be placed there. When the drift becomes long other vertical pits will be sunk upon it, likewise to save distance of transportation underground.

Hoping that I have made sufficiently evident the effectiveness of the present operation, I remain

Very respectfully yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Lowdsay, C.B.; 1 Nov. 1854.

C. J. Hamilton Esquire,

Vice Commissioner at Mines

Malibur.

Dear Sir;

I send you herewith, according to the promise made yesterday, a small sheet containing a map of the Converse Lease, at Big Black Bay, with a topographical map of that portion of the Lease where the pressure-opening is meeting, and with a longitudinal and a cross section of the drain and drift; and I hope this will be enough to make clear the manner in which it is intended to work the Phelan Bed.

It is probably [illegible] one of the comparatively little cost of [illegible] coal that is above water level and drained by a drift without the need of pumps; or of the advantage even when a pit is sunk below water level of having the surface water drained by a drift to the lowest point possible. The [illegible] where the coal comes to a [illegible] shore; [illegible] the water level of the coal and the [illegible] as both coming, in [illegible], quite to the shore, yet, in reality, [illegible] the coal and the rocks are everywhere covered by several feet of drift [illegible]. The [illegible] the drain reaches the water level of the coal [illegible] as the nearest one to the shore on that level at which we could conjecturally expect to find a good roof of rock over the coal.

The inclined plane at the mouth of the drift is to save the length of transportation through the long covered drain. A vertical shaft, as dotted on the section, with a winding engine may also be placed there. When the drift becomes long the vertical pit will be sunk upon it, likewise to save distance of transportation underground.

Hoping that I have made sufficiently evident the effectiveness of the present operation, I remain

Very respectfully yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Cow Bay, C.B. 8 Nov. 1864.

Dear Bowinet;

I send you a tracing of your Richmond County Rights of Search. I have not [illegible] it without enlargement from the big map, because there is no knowing here what errors an enlargement of that plan might produce; and the County Surveyor to whom you send the tracing can enlarge it if he pleases on the spot. As the boundaries of the mands lease are undoubtedly run, the surveyor can measure from its boundaries so as to fix the [illegible] of the coal found.

There is nothing new of importance at the borings here. There is still a chance today at the northern hole, and Mr. Smith hopes to get to the coal in the [illegible] on today.

They say that some three feet of coal or more has been found at Archie McDonald's Lake back of Angus the Tailor's Bar, and I think it is the three foot coal that was bored on the Black Brook Road.

Very truly yours,

Benj. Smith Lyman.

Harrisburg, Pa. Nov. 1861.

Dear Hannah:

I send you a sketch of your Grandmother Lamb's
Gravestone. Please see if it is correct and return it
by next Express. Direct the Express Box which contains
your Quilt. Please write me when you receive the Quilt
and if it is safe. I will be home on Friday
next. Love to all.

Yours affectionately,

[illegible]

[illegible] Law Bar U. S., 11 Nov. 86.

[illegible]

Dear Bouvier;

[illegible] Your favor of last night arrived this evening. The [illegible] late today. [illegible] post office about three [illegible] Mr. Smith received a letter [illegible] for [illegible] dollars [illegible] Mr. Smith would be [illegible]

I measured the Tracy coal in four places in the mine. The average thickness of good coal of these four measurements is [illegible] feet eight inches and a quarter. There is besides an average thickness of five inches and a quarter of [illegible] inches [illegible] of the bed, making [illegible] feet [illegible] and a half. But where the [illegible] coal increased [illegible] bed is [illegible] of till [illegible] bituminous [illegible] and of course not included in the measurement of the coal.

Besides the Macanlay coal we have bored:

(1) 18 inches coal at about 200 feet below the Macanlay

(2) 24 " " (McKinney) " 250 " " " "

(3) 27 " " " " " " "

(5) 18 " " " " " " "

(6) 34 " " " " " " "

I think the twenty one inch coal that was bored the other day, that had the great bed of fire clay below it, is the one mistaken for the Macanlay coal. I became convinced of this two or three days ago when the boring for the Macanlay coal proved a failure. Consequently, the McKinney coal is to be looked for a little south of where I expected to find the Macanlay, and possibly where they are boring there for it now in the last of the holes dug for the Macanlay either there or a couple of hundred feet southward. I have continued the boring in the new hole for this same twenty one inch coal so as to determine its precise position as a point to reckon from and for its full thickness. They had however, the bad luck the Monday, [illegible]

hole to lose a chiselpe [illegible] had to begin the [illegible] in the same diggings and we [illegible] feet down. At the [illegible] hole [illegible] on very slowly indeed, only [illegible] one inch to day, and [illegible] four feet down.

As soon as this point is settled which I hope will be within a very few days, I shall select [illegible] to bring [illegible] two thousand feet [illegible] and determine probably with one hole the position of the [illegible] Bed there and then go [illegible] [illegible] or [illegible] [illegible] where I think it must [illegible] This will give you about five hundred acres [illegible] about five million tons.

Every day this week since my return from Sydney has either been so rainy or so threatening of rain that I [illegible] [illegible] Bay, but shall go [illegible] Tuesday [illegible] after all [illegible] fair day. To day I stand at home expressly [illegible] [illegible] you come after my bad luck last week. I find by my [illegible] there [illegible] over there [illegible] I thought, [illegible] [illegible] The days get shortened a good deal by the [illegible] [illegible] to get there, [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for rowing across. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a few days. He seems to get no better, and we cannot [illegible] [illegible] Peter took off and reset the foreshoes yesterday, but without effect.

Peter's [illegible] came [illegible] yesterday [illegible] with a bill, against me for [illegible] days work at five shillings £2-5 "Use of forch tools from the [illegible] to 18th Oct at 1/3 a day £5-6-3 amount £7-11-3". He wanted to be paid immediately as he was on his way to [illegible] [illegible] I had no money he wanted a line from me to the [illegible] [illegible] give neither and he went away in high dudgeon. I learn from [illegible] that the old [illegible] worked about two days at the time the tap and screws were made, [illegible] he was not employed at all by authority. I told Peter that you expected to give him something for the use of the forge and tools. He told me not to mind the old [illegible] that he was very crabbed [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Peter told Smith that his father had taken a glass of rum yesterday morning and was excited by that.

The money you gave me on Sunday proved to be more than enough by about two pounds, and I have [illegible] dollars on hand [illegible] I would give you the [illegible] of expenditure [illegible] I will [illegible] time book in which the amount of pay [illegible] he has gone to bed. I can make it out for you for Tuesday's work.

The Lepidodendron and Sphenophyllum are not so rare as you suppose. The former is quite common and the latter [illegible] I do not remember any Lepidodendron in your possession. There is a very [illegible] near the post office Sydney just as you turn to go up to Josh's store, forming I believe a part of the gutter that crosses the street on which your father lives. These names are not very precise only names of the genus as they call it, or surnames as you may say, and each genus contains a number of species distinguished by a separate name, or Christian name if you please. Although the genus in each of these cases is not rare, it is possible that the species is. Perhaps Mr. Mills can give you the specific name as well as the generic.

I should like very much to try my hand at lecturing before the Mechanic's Institute, not from any confidence in my success, but because I like the idea of these lectures, and should be glad to help them on if I could. But I have nothing in the shape of a lecture now prepared, at least with me, and I see no opportunity for preparing anything in a proper manner. Besides the earliest evening that is free is the twelfth of December, and if I am not gone to the States before that I think I shall fly off the handle.

There will be about eighty two days work to pay for this week; the whole pay something less, I suppose, than seven to five dollars. I should like to have some cents of [illegible] the week and some 7½ pieces or dimes.

I remain, very truly yours.

Benj. Silliman Lyman

I wrote you a short note Tuesday morning, breaking off rather abruptly [illegible] from interruption. I meant to add that the coal found near Archie Mills Lake must be Ithaughly or J. G. White's [illegible] of not still further south. [illegible] the plan I [illegible] have [illegible] about it. B. S. L.